

**BRIERLEY HILL  
URBAN  
DISTRICT COUNCIL.**



# **REPORT**

on the Work of the  
**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
for 1938.

**NORMAN V. HEPPLER,**  
Medical Officer of Health.

**H. J. PARKER,**  
Chief Sanitary Inspector.



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## **BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

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*Chairman of the Council :*

Councillor H. Hough, J.P.

*Vice-Chairman :*

Councillor J. T. Higgs.

*Members of the Council :*

Councillor W. Bache.  
Councillor H. Edwards.  
Councillor John Foxall.  
Councillor David Guttery.  
Councillor Harry Haden.  
Councillor J. N. Hickman.  
Councillor J. T. Higgs.  
Councillor J. B. Hill.  
Councillor Mrs. Hodgetts.  
Councillor Henry Hough, J.P.  
Councillor Frederick Jones.  
Councillor J. H. Male.  
Councillor Ernest Mantom.  
Councillor E. E. Marsh.  
Councillor J. C. Mason, M.B.E.  
Councillor C. F. Moore.  
Councillor Wilfred Shaw, J.P.  
Councillor John Solari.  
Councillor Thomas Whorton, C.C.  
Councillor F. A. Williams.  
Councillor Thomas Williams, J.P.  
Councillor R. H. Wood.  
Councillor Simeon Wood.  
Councillor W. J. Woodhall.  
Councillor Alfred Workman.

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### **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

Councillor T. Williams, J.P. (*Chairman*).

Councillor W. J. Woodhall (*Vice-Chairman*).

All Members of the Council are Members of this Committee.

## BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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### PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

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*Medical Officer of Health and Medical Superintendent of Isolation Hospital.*

\*Frank Appleton, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Resigned 31/3/39).

\*N. V. Hepple, M.D., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H. (Appointed 1/4/39).  
*Also Assistant County Medical Officer of Health for Staffordshire.*

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*Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :*

\*H. J. Parker, M.S.I.A., Cert. R.S.I., Cert. Meat & Foods Inspector.

*Additional Sanitary Inspectors :*

\*G. T. Cummings, M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat & Foods Inspector.

\*D. J. W. Robertson, M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.B. Cert. Meat & Foods Inspector.

\*A. H. Taylor, M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.B., Cert. Meat & Foods Inspector.  
J. C. Lee (unqualified).

*Veterinary Inspectors :*

D. J. Anthony, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M.

D. Howie, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M.

*Bacteriologist :*

Dr. J. Menton, Bacteriological Laboratory, County Buildings,  
Stafford.

*Tuberculosis Officer :*

Dr. D. J. Loughran, Tuberculosis Dispensary, Parsons Street,  
Dudley.

*Matron Isolation Hospital :*

Miss G. Rutledge, S.R.N., S.C.M.

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*Clerical Staff :*

L. J. Partridge.

N. Bellamy.

F. Detheridge.

\*Salary Contributions made by Exchequer Grants.

**BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

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# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **OF THE**

### **MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

For the Year Ending 31st December, 1938.

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*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Urban District Council of Brierley Hill.*

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Hodgetts, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the work of your Public Health Department for the year 1938. This Report is drawn up in accordance with the scheme indicated in Circular 1928 of the Ministry of Health.

The health of the people in the area continues to be satisfactory. The birth rate shows a slight fall, but is above that for England and Wales as a whole. The birth rate generally has shown a tendency to fall for some years now, not only in this country, but in most of the civilised states of the world. It may be partly due to the fact that the proportion of elderly people is increasing in the population.

The death rate has also fallen from last year's figure, due chiefly to a decrease in deaths from influenza, and in deaths of young children. The principal causes of death were again circulatory and respiratory disease, and cancer.

It is very gratifying to see that the Infantile Mortality Rate has fallen from 70.90 last year to the low figure of 49.29. If we analyse the figures further, we find that much of this decrease is due to a fall in neo-natal mortality. It is suggestive that this should have occurred in the first full year in which the Midwives' Act has been in operation.

Diphtheria immunisation was carried on throughout the year in Schools and Welfare Centres. 71% of the Infant School population has been immunised. The co-operation of the teachers has been willingly given, and has proved invaluable. I should like to take this opportunity of thanking them.

The scheme for the provision of a large Joint Isolation Hospital, which this Council decided to support, is making progress, and the question of a suitable site and the necessary accommodation are under consideration by the Joint Board.

While the hospital at Stallings Lane is doing excellent work, we cannot at the moment make any provision for cases of measles and whooping-cough with pneumonia.

It is felt that a large hospital will be able to cater for this urgent need, and that more beds will also be available for the treatment of the ordinary infectious diseases.

Housing work has been carried on steadily during 1938. Fourteen Clearance Areas, comprising 135 houses, were represented during the year. Much still remains to be done in this direction, but some difficulty is being experienced in obtaining suitable land for re-housing schemes.

The houses in the Birch Coppice area are being provided with an extension of sewerage. It is probable that this will lead to a considerable improvement in the condition of the area.

The time of the Health Department staff is being taken up to an increasing extent by work in connection with the Air Raid Precautions scheme. The Medical Officer is responsible for the local organisation of the Casualty services and for the training of volunteers in First Aid. This has meant an immense amount of extra work by all members of the department, which has been undertaken willingly. In connection with this, I should like to pay a tribute to the local Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and to the Divisional Superintendent, who has been of very great assistance in helping with the training of volunteers in First Aid.

The Veterinary Department has continued to provide material for research work from the large amount which it inspected during the year.

The Council were unfortunate in losing the services of Dr. Appleton, who left at the end of March, 1939, in order to take up an appointment as Medical Officer of Health at Sale. During his

term of office at Brierley Hill, Dr. Appleton proved himself an energetic and popular officer of the Council, and his departure has been universally regretted. I am personally greatly indebted to him for the help he gave me when I took over the work of this department.

I must express my gratitude to the Chief Sanitary Inspector and the members of the Staff of the Health Department for the very real help they have been to me since I came to Brierley Hill. I arrived at a time when the A.R.P. work was growing rapidly, and I cannot praise too highly the loyalty and kindness with which they have assisted me.

I should also like to pay a tribute to the Matron and Staff of the Isolation Hospital. They have given me all possible help on every occasion.

To the Clerk and to the other members of the Council's staff I tender my thanks for the ready courtesy and co-operation which I have received.

Finally, I should like to express my deep appreciation of the kindness and courtesy which has been shown me by all the members of the Council since my appointment. I should like particularly to thank the Chairman of the Council (Councillor H. Hough, J.P.) and the Chairman of the Public Health Committee (Councillor T. Williams, J.P.) for their constant assistance and co-operation in carrying out that important branch of the Council's activities the work of the Health Department.

With the continued help of the Council and Officers I hope to ensure the progress and efficiency of this Department.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Hodgetts and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

NORMAN V. HEPPLER,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

**SECTION A.****STATISTICS.**

Area	...	...	...	...	(Acres)	5,932
Registrar-General's Estimate of resident population (mid 1938)	...	...	...	...		46,360
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to the Rate Books)	...	...	...	...		12,781
Rateable Value (31st December, 1938)	...	...	...	...		£168,121
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1938-39	...	...	...	...		£625

**SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE AREA.**

The principal industries of the district are as follows:—

Iron and Steel.  
 Building.  
 General Engineering.  
 Constructional Engineering.  
 Bricks (including firebricks).  
 Glass (table and decorative).  
 Food (ham and bacon).  
 Enamel Hollow-ware.

Of these industries the Table and Decorative Glass, Food and the Iron and Steel Industries are the biggest employers of labour. The population is essentially of an industrial character and contains many skilled and a large number of unskilled workmen.

The Manager of the local Employment Exchange has kindly supplied the following figures. It will be realised that this exchange only touches a percentage of the total employees in the district. An attempt has been made previously to estimate the number of unemployed in the area by obtaining the figures from the Cradley Heath, Stourbridge and Dudley Exchanges. I am assured, however, that it is no longer possible to thus estimate the number of our unemployed and so Brierley Hill Exchange figures only are given. This can be taken as an indication of the unemployed throughout the district and it will be noted that there are more unemployed than in the preceding year.

	Men	Boys	Women	Girls	Total	Total %
Insured Population	8120	2070	980	660	11830	
Unemployed	1245	27	256	33	1561	13.2

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1938.

<b>Live Births.</b>			Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	...	...	759	396	363
Illegitimate	...	...	12	8	4
Total			771	404	367

Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population ... 16.63.

<b>Still Births.</b>			Total.	Males.	Females.
Legitimate	...	...	34	16	18
Illegitimate	...	...	—	—	—
Total			34	16	18

Rate per 1 000 total (live and still) births ... 42.23

<b>Deaths.</b>			Total	Males.	Females.
			485	266	219
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population			...	...	10.46
Areal Comparability Factor			...	...	1.10
Corrected Death Rate (10.46 x 1.10)			...	...	11.51

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :			Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and (Still Births)
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	0	0.0
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	4	4.97
			4	4.97

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	49.29
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	50.06
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	...	...	0.0
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	1
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	71

## NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS.

### Births.

The total number of Births registered was 771 (396 males, 363 females). Of these Births 759 were legitimate and 12 illegitimate. This gives us a Birth Rate of 16.63 per 1,000 population, as compared with 15.1 for England and Wales, and 17.52 for 1937. The Birth Rate of the district is, therefore, higher than that for the country as a whole. The proportions of male births to female births is 1,264 to 1,000.

### Deaths.

These numbered 485 (266 males, 219 females). The Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population was 10.46 as compared with 11.20 in 1937. In order to bring this figure into line with that for the country as a whole it is necessary to multiply it by a comparability factor which is 1.10 and this gives us a corrected Death Rate of 11.51. The Death Rate for England and Wales is 11.6, so that even if we take the corrected Death Rate the Death Rate of Brierley Hill is still below that of the country generally. The causes of death will be found in Table III. The chief causes of death have been as follows :—

Heart Disease	...	...	92	(86)
Cancer and Malignant Disease	...	...	71	(60)
Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	33	(37)
Premature Birth...	...	...	23	(39)
Tuberculosis	...	...	35	(31)
Pneumonia	...	...	47	(33)
Influenza	...	...	14	(31)
Bronchitis	...	...	11	(19)
			<hr/> 326	<hr/> (336)

It will be seen that these accounted for 326 deaths out of a total of 485.

The corresponding figures for 1937 are given in brackets. It will be noted that the deaths from Heart Disease, Cancer, Pneumonia and Tuberculosis have increased, whilst the deaths from Bronchitis, Influenza and Premature Births have been reduced.

The proportion of male deaths to female deaths is 1214 as compared with 1,000.

### Natural Increase of Population.

The number of births exceeded the number of deaths by 286.

TABLE I.

Summary of Vital Statistics of adjacent Authorities, 1938.

District.	Population	Birth Rate.	Crude Death Rate.	Standardised Death Rate.	Infantile Mortality.	Death Rate from Tuberculosis, per 1,000	
						Respiratory.	Other Tubercular Diseases.
<b>Brierley Hill</b> ...	<b>46,360</b>	<b>13.63</b>	<b>10.43</b>	<b>11.51</b>	<b>49.29</b>	<b>0.65</b>	<b>0.11</b>
Rowley Regis ...	44,190	18.49	10.88	12.94	47.73	0.59	0.09
Stourbridge ...	35,130	12.58	10.65	11.07	47.51	0.63	0.58
Dudley ...	61,600	18.23	11.22	11.51	46.30	0.65	0.19
Tipton ...	36,980	21.47	12.08	14.25	56.0	0.78	0.16
Sedgley ...	20,350	15.8	10.90	11.73	53.0	0.34	0.20
Wednesbury ...	33,370	18.0	12.1	13.91	—	0.53	0.05
Oldbury ...	45,450	19.88	10.42	12.71	56.41	0.65	0.13
Coseley ...	28,850	21.49	11.54	13.38	59.67	0.41	0.13
West Bromwich ...	82,680	18.00	12.14	13.83	57.58	0.61	0.12
Willenhall ...	23,100	19.9	11.4	13.5	64.4	0.78	0.21
Walsall ...	107,300	18.62	10.99	12.30	64.56	0.61	0.06
Bilston ...	31,430	20.3	12.1	14.76	79.0	0.63	0.22

### Infantile Mortality.

38 children under one year of age died during the year. This gives an Infantile Mortality Rate of 49.29 per 1 000 live births as compared with 70.90 for the previous year and for England and Wales of 53.

The rates for five-yearly periods are given below.

1900—1904	...	...	...	149
1905—1909	...	...	...	151
1910—1914	...	...	...	139
1915—1919	...	...	...	89
1920—1924	...	...	...	92
1925—1929	...	...	...	71
1930—1934	...	...	...	69
1935	...	...	...	64
1936	...	...	...	85
1937	...	...	...	71
1938	...	...	...	49

If we take an average over ten-yearly periods we obtain the following figures :—

1900—1909	...	...	...	150
1910—1919	...	...	...	114
1920—1929	...	...	...	81
1930—1938 (nine years)	...	...	...	68

The following Table gives the causes of Infantile Deaths during 1938 and it will be noted that 15 of these deaths occurred during the first week—of these deaths 2 occurred during the first day. If we analyse the causes of infantile deaths we find that—

7 deaths were attributed to Premature Birth.

7 to Congenital Malformations.

3 to Birth Injury.

2 to Atelectasis.

2 to Debility and Marasmus

making a total of 21 deaths which can be classified as neo-natal mortality.

There remain 17 deaths of children under one year of age. Of these 11 were due to pneumonia.

6 deaths remain and most of these probably would remain under ideal conditions.

The neo-natal mortality in this district is of great importance and all expectant mothers are urged to attend the ante-natal centres which are provided for their benefit.

TABLE II.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Deaths from Stated Causes at Various Ages under 1 year of age.

Causes of Death.	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total Deaths under 1 month	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Pneumonia	1	—	—	2	3	2	3	2	1	11
Bronchitis	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
Debility and Marasmus	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Premature Birth	6	1	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	7
Congenital Malformations	2	—	2	—	4	3	—	—	—	7
Birth Injury	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Overlying and Accidental Death	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Atelectasis	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Totals	15	1	3	3	22	5	5	5	1	38

**Maternal Mortality.**

During the year four maternal deaths took place. This gives a Maternal Mortality Rate of 4.97 per 1,000 (total live and still births) as compared with 2.97 for the country as a whole and 3.11 for 1937.

The Midwives' Act of 1936 came into operation during 1937, and it is anticipated that when the administration of this Act has had time to be established there will be an effect produced on both our maternal mortality and our neo-natal mortality.

Of the four maternal deaths none were due to Sepsis. Two were due to Caesarean section and two to haemorrhage following birth.

Enquiry is made on behalf of the County Council into all cases of maternal deaths occurring in this district.

**Mortuary.**

Fifteen bodies were brought to the mortuary during the year. In the case of ten of them death was due to natural causes ; one was a case of accidental death and in three cases death was due to suicide. None were of an infectious nature. The average length of stay was  $3\frac{1}{5}$  days.

TABLE III.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Registrar-General's Return.

DISEASES.	1938	
	M.	F.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ... ..	—	—
Measles ... ..	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	1
Diphtheria ... ..	—	1
Influenza ... ..	9	5
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	1	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ..	24	6
Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	3	2
Syphilis ... ..	2	—
General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis ... ..	1	—
Cancer ... ..	32	39
Diabetes ... ..	1	4
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc. ... ..	9	24
Heart Disease ... ..	52	40
Aneurysm ... ..	—	—
Other Circulatory Diseases ... ..	5	7
Bronchitis ... ..	6	5
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	35	12
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	6	4
Peptic Ulcer ... ..	4	2
Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years) ... ..	1	—
Appendicitis ... ..	3	2
Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	—	1
Other Diseases of Liver ... ..	—	2
Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	3	5
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ... ..	4	7
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	—	—
Other Puerperal Diseases ... ..	—	4
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc. ... ..	14	9
Senility ... ..	10	13
Suicide ... ..	2	3
Other Violence ... ..	10	5
Other Defined Diseases... ..	28	16
Causes ill-defined or unknown ... ..	1	—
Diarrhoea (over 2 years) ... ..	—	—
TOTALS ... ..	266	219

**TABLE IV.**

Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death Rates and Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1938.

	England and Wales.	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census	London Adminis'tve County	Brierley Hill.
Rates per 1,000 Population.					
Births—					
Live ... ..	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4	16.63
Still ... ..	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48	0.73
Deaths—					
All Causes ...	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4	10.46
Typhoid and Paratyphoid					
Fevers ... ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Small-Pox ...	0.00	—	0.00	—	—
Measles ... ..	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06	0.10
Scarlet Fever ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.09
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.02
Diphtheria ...	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.02
Influenza ... ..	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06	0.33
Notifications—					
Small-Pox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05	0.49
Diphtheria ...	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90	1.21
Enteric Fever ...	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05	—
Erysipelas ...	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46	0.45
Pneumonia ...	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98	1.25
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.					
Deaths under 1 year of age ...	53	57	51	57	49.29
Deaths from Dia- rrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ... ..	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1	1.29
Maternal Mortality					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.89	} Not available.			0.20
Others ... ..	2.19				5.19
Total ... ..	3.08				5.19
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)					
Maternal Mortality					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.86	} Not available.			0.00
Others ... ..	2.11				4.97
Total ... ..	2.97				4.97
Notifications—					
Puerperal Fever	} 14.42	18.08	12.51	{ 3.53	19.87
Puerperal					
Pyrexia ... ..					0.00

**SECTION B.**

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**GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.****Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.**

The Medical Officer of Health is also Assistant County Medical Officer of Health for the County of Stafford and his time is divided between the two Authorities. This enables the area to have the services of a full-time officer as his work for the County is also in the area.

He is responsible for the general supervision of the work of the Health Department. As a County official he is also responsible for the School Medical work and the Maternity and Child Welfare work at Quarry Bank.

Dr. Machlachlan and Dr. Fry are responsible for the School Medical work and Maternity and Child Welfare work in the rest of the area. Dr. Armsby is the ante-natal officer for the area.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector also acts as Cleansing Superintendent and is in charge of the administration of the Shops Acts. There are three additional Sanitary Inspectors, one of whom is entirely engaged in the supervision of the Council houses. They are all qualified as meat and food inspectors in addition to their sanitary inspectors' qualifications. There is also one unqualified assistant Sanitary Inspector. There are three clerks.

Two Veterinary Officers are employed by the Council.

Under the Staffordshire County Council are eight Health Visitors (six whole time) who are allocated to the Brierley Hill Urban District. The co-operation of these ladies is assured through the Medical Officer of Health who is in constant touch with them.

**Staff Changes.**

The appointment of Dr. A. E. Thalau as temporary Veterinary Officer ceased on the 15th September, 1938.

Mr. A. H. Taylor was appointed in January, 1938 as additional Sanitary Inspector in place of Mr. L. H. Vale, who resigned his appointment.

### Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological and bacteriological specimens are sent to the County Laboratory at Stafford. No charge is made by this Laboratory for the examination of these specimens.

Advantage is taken of these facilities by the general practitioners of the town and by this department. The following is the record of specimens examined during the year.

Examination of Throat and Nasal Swabs for the presence of Diphtheria bacillus	...	...	1599
Positive	...	...	210
Negative	...	...	1389
Examination of sputum for the presence of the Tubercle bacillus	...	...	220
Positive	...	...	42
Negative	...	...	178
Cervical Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci	...	...	228
Positive	...	...	9
Negative	...	...	219
Agglutination Tests	...	...	11
Examination of Faeces for Colon Typhoid			
Dysentery Group	...	...	15
Other Pathological Reports	...	...	26

### Ambulance Facilities.

There are two ambulances provided by the Authority. One is provided for the removal of accident and non-infectious cases and the other for the removal of infectious cases. The Infectious Diseases Ambulance is situated at the Stallings Lane Hospital.

A new ambulance has been provided by the Council for non-infectious cases. The old ambulance has been transferred to the Stallings Lane Hospital. The accident ambulance is stationed at Messrs. Beckley's garage, and total of 363 cases were conveyed during the year. These were made up as follows:—

Brierley Hill	...	...	...	170
Kingswinford	...	...	...	144
Quarry Bank	...	...	...	47
Dudley	...	...	...	1
Amblecote	...	...	...	1

During the year a total mileage of 4,246.4 miles has been covered.

### Nursing in the Home.

The services of a district nurse are available throughout the area.

The following Associations maintain District Nurses :—

The following Associations maintain District Nurses:		
Brierley Hill and Brockmoor Nursing Association	...	Two nurses
Kingswinford Nursing Association	} Affiliated to the Staffs. Nursing Association and Queen's Institute of District Nurses	One Nurse
Wordsley Nursing Association		One Nurse
Pensnett and Bromley Nursing Association ... ..		One Nurse
Quarry Bank Nursing Association		One Nurse

### Clinics and Treatment Centres.

School Clinics and Infant Welfare Centres are established in the following areas :—

		School Clinics.	Infant Welfare Centre.
Brierley Hill : (Church Hill)	... Tuesday	9 a.m.—12 p.m.	2—5 p.m.
Brockmoor : (St. John's School- rooms) ... ..	Friday	..	..
Pensnett : (Methodist School- rooms) ... ..	Thursday	..	..
Wordsley : (Methodist Buildings, New Street) ...	Monday	..	..
Kingswinford : (Methodist Buildings, Moss Grove) ...	Tuesday	..	..
Quarry Bank : (Methodist Buildings, New Street) ...	Wednesday	..	..

**Ante-Natal Clinics** are established at the above addresses as follows :—

Pensnett	... Thursday	... 1 p.m.
Brierley Hill	... Thursday	... 2—5 p.m.
Kingswinford	... Tuesday	... 1 p.m.
Wordsley	... Monday	... 1 p.m.
Quarry Bank	... Alternate Thursdays...	9 a.m.—12 noon.

Refraction Clinics and Dental Sessions are held as required at the above Centres.



## **HOSPITALS.**

Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council.

### **(1) Isolation Hospital, Stallings Lane.**

The hospital is maintained by the Council for the isolation and treatment of cases of infectious disease.

Accommodation is provided for 32 patients, but it is limited to four Wards—male and female Scarlet Fever Wards, and male and female Diphtheria Wards, and according to the latest standards the hospital is overcrowded when there are 32 patients.

We are unable to take complicated cases of Measles or Whooping Cough, and cases of Pneumonia and Enteric Fever cannot be accommodated.

The staff consists of the Medical Superintendent, whose duties are performed by the Medical Officer of Health, the Matron, Staff Nurse, four Assistant Nurses, two Maids, Ambulance Driver-Gardener, and two Laundresses (part-time).

144 patients were admitted during the year, 36 patients were cases of Scarlet Fever, and 108 cases of Diphtheria. 74 were outside cases which were admitted at the request of neighbouring Local Authorities—of these 21 were Scarlet Fever and 53 Diphtheria.

It has been the policy of this Council to admit as many outside cases as the capacity of the hospital would allow. We realise the difficulties of neighbouring Authorities who have no hospital and try to accommodate them as far as possible. It will be noted that the number of outside cases has steadily gone up during the last five years since the new Brierley Hill Council was constituted. As no hospital is provided by outside Authorities, it is usually only the worst cases that are admitted from this source.

There were six deaths in this hospital during the year, five of which were normally resident outside the district. These deaths all occurred in children who were suffering from a grave form of Diphtheria, and in whom it was usually found that early medical advice had not been sought. One case died within fifteen minutes of admission and four cases within ten days. The remaining case died 43 days after admission. This case was complicated by Pharyngeal Paralysis.

**Mortality Rate.**

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	Nil.
Diphtheria	...	...	...	5.55%

**Complications.**

The following complications occurred :—

**Scarlet Fever.**

Otitia media	...	...	...	1
Rheumatism	...	...	...	1
Albuminuria	...	...	...	4
Cervical Adenitis	...	...	...	1

One case of Scarlet Fever was admitted from another hospital with Alveolar Abscess, and another case was a case of severe burns. Both these cases responded to treatment.

The Scarlet Fever was on the whole of a mild type—it was only necessary to give serum in twelve cases.

**Diphtheria.**

Cardiac involvement	...	...	19
Palatal Paralysis	...	...	14
Strabismus	...	...	3
Paralysis of accommodation	...	...	4
Albuminuria	...	...	10
Pharyngeal Paralysis	...	...	2

The Diphtheria this year was of a grave type, particularly that from outside areas, and in eighteen cases it was necessary to give intravenous serum.

It was not found necessary to perform tracheotomy in any case.

In three cases admitted as Diphtheria the diagnosis was not substantiated.

**(2) Small-Pox Hospital.**

This hospital is situated at Moxley and is under the control of a Small-Pox Joint Hospital Board, of which Brierley Hill is a constituent authority.

**(3) Sanatoria.**

The male Sanatorium is at Prestwood, and the Sanatoria for women are at Yarnfield (near Stone), Groundslow and Kinver. Cases of Surgical Tuberculosis are treated at Standon Hall and The Woodlands, and there is a special Sanatorium for children at Himley.

(4) **Maternity and Children.**

There is no special hospital provided for maternity cases or for the treatment of children. Nursing assistance is provided for maternity cases by the County Council. The County Council also provides for medical and specialist attention in cases where this is required. Women and children requiring hospital treatment may be sent to the hospital at Wolverhampton.

(5) **Orthopaedic.**

The County have provided for the specialist treatment of these cases in special clinics and they are referred to hospital if they require in-patient treatment.

(6) **Other.**

There are no other provided hospitals but the following General Hospitals are within easy reach of the Urban District :—

Corbett Hospital, Amblecote.

Guest Hospital, Dudley.

There are also the hospitals of Birmingham and Wolverhampton—all of which are within easy reach of the district.

**Midwifery and Maternity Services.**

There are 8 registered midwives who are practising in the area. These midwives are all under the supervision of the County Authority and with the legislation recently introduced 7 of the midwives are under direct control of the County Council, which is the Maternity and Child Welfare Authority in this district.

**Maternity and Nursing Homes.**

There are no Maternity or Nursing Homes in the area, but accommodation is provided by the County Council at Sandfield House for 16 maternity cases.

### ADOPTIVE ACTS AND BYE-LAWS.

The following relating to Public Health are in force in Brierley Hill.

#### Acts.

- Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890. (Parts.)
- Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890. (Parts.)
- Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907. (Parts.)
- Public Health Act, 1925.

#### Bye-Laws.

September, 1926.

Offensive Trades.

*Blood Boiler, Bone Boiler, Fellmonger, Glue Maker, Soap Maker, Gut Scraper, Tallow Melter, Tripe Boiler, Rag and Bone Dealer.*

New Streets and Buildings.

Houses let in lodgings.

Tents, Vans, Sheds.

Common Lodging Houses.

Escape from Fire (Workshops).

Slaughterhouses.

Nuisances, Streets, etc.

Mortuary.

Cemetery.

November, 1936.

For securing the Improvement of Housing conditions.

## SECTION C.

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### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

#### Water Supply.

This district is supplied by two Companies, the greater part by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, the remaining part, consisting of 1,725 houses at Wordsley, by the Stourbridge and District Water Board.

In both cases the supply is obtained by deep wells and bore holes in the new red sandstone at depths varying from 200 to 500 feet.

Analyses are undertaken monthly at the request of the Council and both companies carry out periodical bacteriological and chemical analyses. These analyses take place annually in the case of the Stourbridge Company, together with weekly hardness tests, and in the case of the Staffordshire Company samples were taken regularly throughout the year. For the further protection of the water supply the South Staffordshire Waterworks Co. have installed at their Hinksford Pumping Station and Cottage a water carriage sewerage system with disposal works consisting of detritus tank, filters, etc., for adequately dealing with the sewage of that station.

#### STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT WATER BOARD.

#### Bacteriological Examination.

##### *Count.*

On nutrient agar after 48 hours incubation at 37°C.	... ..	7 colonies per ml.
---	--------	--------------------

On nutrient agar after 72 hours incubation at 20—22°C.	... ..	15 colonies per ml.
--	--------	---------------------

<i>Coli Aerogenes</i> Content (presumptive coli) after 48 hours incubation at 37°C.	none per 100 ml.
---	------------------

*Analysis.*

	Parts per 100,000.
Total Solid Matter dried at 212°F. ...	42.0
Free and Saline Ammonia ...	Nil.
Albuminoid ... ..	Nil.
Nitric Nitrogen ... ..	1.18
Chlorine ... ..	3.7
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F. ...	0.003
Appearance ... ..	Clear
Injurious Metallic Contamination ...	None
pH Value ... ..	7.4
Hardness before boiling ... ..	18.84°
Hardness after boiling ... ..	7.27°
Temporary hardness ... ..	11.57°

## THE SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE WATERWORKS CO.

*Count.*

On nutrient agar after 48 hours  
incubation at 37°C. ... 5 colonies per ml.

On nutrient agar after 72 hours  
incubation at 20—22°C. ... 17 colonies per ml.

*Coli Aerogenes* Content (presumptive coli) ... none per 100 ml.  
after 48 hours incubation at 37°C.

*Analysis.*

	Parts per 100,000
Total Solid Matter dried at 212°F. ...	39.5
Free and Saline Ammonia ...	Nil.
Albuminoid ... ..	0.003
Nitric Nitrogen ... ..	1.00
Chlorine ... ..	3.9
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F. ...	0.008
Appearance ... ..	Clear
Injurious Metallic Contamination ...	None
pH Value ... ..	7.0
Hardness before boiling ... ..	18.42°
Hardness after boiling ... ..	8.90°
Temporary hardness ... ..	9.52°

With the exception of the hardness, which is high, both Companies supply a very good water for drinking and general purposes, with no undesirable contamination and showing a high degree of purity.

### **Drainage and Sewage Disposal.**

The sewage from the Quarry Bank area (population 8,500) is dealt with by the Upper Stour Valley Main Drainage Board. The remaining part of the Urban District (population 37,500) is treated at the Round Hill Sewage Farm, which is situated at Whittington. The land at this farm is particularly suitable for broad irrigation and this is the method adopted.

There are no sewage disposal works in the district.

### **Round Hill Farm.**

This farm is 250 acres in extent. Of the area covered, 162 acres are laid out with distributing carriers and provided with sub-soil drainage, and the farm is capable of dealing with a population of 37,500. This figure is based on a water consumption of 21 gallons per head.

The Council have work in progress which will provide for sewage up to three times the dry weather flow to be pumped to the irrigation area, and storm water from three to six times the dry weather flow to be stored in tanks at the site of the present pumping stations at Heathbrook and Wordsley. Sub-soil drainage with distributing carriers over the remaining 80 acres of the Round Hill Farm is also being provided and will allow for a population of 45,000 working on the same basis of 21 gallons per head. This estimate of 21 gallons per head is low according to present day standards.

During the year work on the provision of a storm water sewer from Buckpool to Wordsley and a storm water sewer in the Bromley area was commenced.

Sufficient sewers are being provided at Birch Coppice to connect all the remaining houses in that area.

### **Rivers and Streams.**

I understand the County Council have in hand the question of trade waste pollution which is taking place from neighbouring works into the Stour and a tributary of the Stour in the region of Mears Coppice.

### **Public Cleansing.**

The collection and disposal of house refuse is dealt with thoroughly in the Sanitary Inspector's section of this report. There have been no complaints from residents in the proximity of the tips.

The provision of a large central tip in connection with the proposed Depot for the Cleansing Department is a matter which the Council will have to consider in the near future.

### **Smoke Abatement.**

There have been no complaints of smoke nuisance during the year. The difficulty in this district is that the most likely sources of smoke nuisances are protected trades, but the large measure of co-operation with the firms in question has assured us of comparative immunity. A certain amount of smoke cannot be avoided in an industrial district. Once again it must be emphasised that a proper plant and stack not only prevents public nuisance but is cheaper and more efficient. Domestic smoke was once again a large source of smoke pollution.

### **Swimming Baths and Pools.**

There are no municipal swimming baths in this district, but a private open-air swimming bath was constructed and opened last year at Kingswinford. This pool is on a large scale—it has a natural setting and is surrounded with a Sports Ground and sun-bathing places. We have had no complaints as to the efficiency of the plant, but the interests of the public will continue to be carefully watched and samples taken from time to time. The chief disadvantage of a private swimming pool such as this is that it caters for the public only during the summer months and is not sufficiently cheap to benefit all classes of the community. Arrangements have been made by the County Council for the use of this pool by school children in the locality during the mornings of the summer months. This arrangement gives general cause for satisfaction as the swimming bath is one of the most urgent of the unsatisfied needs of this district. The provision of open spaces and facilities for recreation are in my opinion of paramount importance, and particularly in a district such as this. During the year a physical fitness campaign has been in progress. Swimming is an easy and most practical way of inculcating principles of better health.

As forecast last year, the Council are considering the provision of a Swimming Bath for the use of the townspeople at Brierley Hill. We should like again to show the value of this from a public health point of view. Not only does the public swimming bath cater for the needs of all classes of the community with respect to exercise, but it can be expected to have some influence on the general cleanliness of the public. As has been evident in previous reports, cleanliness is regarded as the most important essential of public health.

### Cemeteries.

There is one Cemetery in the district. It occupies an area of four acres.

### Open Spaces and Pleasure Grounds.

The usual area of open spaces recommended by the Town Planning experts is 1 acre to every 150 to 200 persons. If we take a population of 46,000 persons and allow 1 acre for each 200 the amount of open space in the district should be 230 acres. This includes parks and public gardens, playing fields, public open spaces and private open spaces and recreation grounds. A Table is given below of open spaces already provided in the district and future requirements in order that adequate open spaces should be available :—

District.	Total area required.	Approximate area already allocated.	Further area required.
Brierley Hill and Brockmoor (Population 19,500)	98.0 acres.	59.0 acres.	39.0 acres.
Pensnett (Population 6,300)	31.0 „	19.7 „	11.3 „
St. Mary's (Population 4,000)	24.0 „	14.7 „	9.3 „
Wordsley (Population 6,900)	35.0 „	27.7 „	7.3 „
Quarry Bank (Population 8,400)	42.0 „	24.8 „	17.2 „
Total ... ..	230.0 acres.	145.9 acres.	84.1 acres.

As will be noted from the above Table, progress has been made during the year and further substantial progress is expected during 1939.

**SCHOOLS.**

A list of the schools in the district, with the accommodation, number on the roll, percentage of\* attendance and sanitary accommodation is given below :—

School and Department.	Accommodation	No. on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Per-centage.	No. of W.C.'s
<b>Brierley Hill—</b>					
Bent St. Senior Boys' ...	408	305.2	294.7	96.5	} 24
Infants' ..	176	143.5	133.9	93.3	
Intermediate ... ..	440	213.5	204.9	95.9	
Mill St. Junior ... ..	350	243.5	230.2	94.5	20
R.C. Mixed ..		161.5	153.9	95.2	
Hawbush Rd. Junior C. ..	384	302.1	290.7	96.2	} 32
Infants' ..	384	259.5	233.3	89.9	
Brockmoor Senior Girls' ..	440	309	290.1	93.8	
Junior Mixed..	433	393	374.1	95.1	} 21
Infants' ...	250	196.5	184.4	93.8	
Quarry Bank Senior Boys' ..	320	202.3	193.5	95.6	} 27
Senior Girls' ..	280	212.3	199.4	93.9	
Junior Boys' ..	420	211.6	203.1	95.9	} 18
Junior Girls' ..	404	214.7	205.5	95.5	
Infants ..	423	215	201.9	93.9	
Mt. Pl. Junr. ..	300	134.1	127.8	95.3	} 34
Mt. Pl. Ifts. ..	215	79.4	76.6	96.4	
<b>Kingswinford—</b>					
Glynne Council Infants' ..	100	45	41.2	91.5	5
Pensnett C. Senior Mixed	400	366.1	343.4	93.7	19
Junior ..	434	274.5	256	93.2	} 18
Infants' ..	215	166.9	151.8	90.9	
Pensnett C.E. Junr. Mixed	361	250.9	237.8	94.7	
Bird's Meadow C. ..	250	121	110	91.5	10
Wall Heath C.E. Mixed ..	218	210.9	202.9	96.2	
C. Infants' ..	100	56	51.5	91.9	5
Wordsley Lawnswood Rd. Junr. Mixed...		259.5	249.2	96	} 18
Infants' ...		105.6	97.2	92	
<b>Kingswinford</b>					
St. Mary's Mixed	333	270.8	259.1	95.6	
Infants' ...	131	67.9	63.6	93.6	
Wordsley Brook St. Junr. Mixed and Infants ...		210.5	201.9	95.9	12
Audnam Council Senior Mixed ... ..	400	323.9	307.1	94.8	
Totals ..		6,527	6,170	94.5	

No public elementary school was closed during the year for infectious disease.

## SECTION D.

## HOUSING.

**Progress During the Year.**

The number of new houses erected during the year was 1,037. 454 were built by private enterprise. The remaining 583 were built by the Council under the Housing Act, 1936.

435 houses were demolished during the year.

**Clearance Areas.**

The following Clearance Areas were represented :—

Parkes Street, Brierley Hill, No. 23	...	12	houses.
Bank Street, Brierley Hill, No. 25	...	4	"
Audnam, Wordsley, No. 26	...	6	"
West Street, Quarry Bank, No. 27	...	5	"
Level Street, Brierley Hill, No. 28	...	11	"
Level Street, Brierley Hill, No. 29	...	17	"
Level Street, Brierley Hill, No. 30	...	5	"
Wallows Street, Brockmoor, No. 31	...	26	"
Stour Hill, Quarry Bank, No. 32...	...	9	"
Stour Hill, Quarry Bank, No. 33...	...	3	"
Church Street, Pensnett, No. 34	...	15	"
Church Street, Pensnett, No. 35	...	14	"
Church Street, Pensnett, No. 36	...	4	"
Church Street, Pensnett, No. 37	...	4	"
Total		135	"

In respect of Areas Nos. 28, 29, 30 and 31, Compulsory Purchase Orders were made.

In respect of Areas 23, 25, 26, 27, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36 and 37, Clearance Orders were made.

Ministerial Inquiries were held in respect of the following Orders :—

Audnam, Wordsley, No. 26	...	Clearance Order confirmed.
Silver Street, Brierley Hill, No. 22	...	"
Parkes Street, Brierley Hill, No. 23	...	"
Bank Street, Brierley Hill, No. 24	...	"
Bank Street, Brierley Hill, No. 25	...	"
Level Street, Brierley Hill, No. 28	...	Compulsory Purchase Order confirmed.
Level Street, Brierley Hill, No. 29	...	"
Stour Hill, Quarry Bank, No. 32	...	Clearance Order confirmed.

There were no objections to the following Orders and no Inquiries were held :—

West Street, Quarry Bank, No. 27 ... Clearance Order confirmed.

Level Street, Brierley Hill, No. 30 ... Compulsory Purchase Order confirmed.

Stour Hill, Quarry Bank, No. 33 ... Clearance Order confirmed.

### **Demolition Orders.**

Demolition Orders were made in respect of 146 dwelling-houses during the year.

### **Overcrowding.**

Good progress has been made during the year in respect of overcrowding. The number of dwellings overcrowded at the beginning of the year was 176. During the year 44 additional cases occurred, making a total of 220, out of which 139 cases were relieved, and on the 31st December, 1938, we have only 81 cases of statutory overcrowding remaining.

When all our cases of statutory overcrowding are re-housed we shall have to consider the question of sex overcrowding. Though it is easy in theory to tell people they can sleep in a living room, as a practical measure it is hardly ever adopted.

### **Provision of Houses for Aged Persons.**

The bungalows for aged persons which were referred to last year have now been built in various parts of the district. During the year 20 of these bungalows were built. They have either a living room, bedroom, scullery and bathroom, or the bedroom is arranged as a recess in the living room. The bathroom is fitted with a 3-ft. 6-ins. bath which is provided with seating facilities.

One of the most important of the re-housing activities of this Council has been the provision of these bungalows. With a falling birth rate and the increased expectation of life the aged are gradually forming a much larger proportion of our population.

## **SECTION E.**

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### **INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**

#### **Milk Supply.**

Sampling of milk is carried out by the County Council and no report has been received from them during the year of any unsatisfactory milk sample taken within the area.

## Meat and Other Foods.

This work is carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors who are qualified inspectors of meat and foods. The details of the inspections made and the weight of meat destroyed during the year will be found in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

There are 11 licensed and 9 registered slaughterhouses in the district.

There is a large meat factory in the district and the Council employ two qualified veterinary surgeons to inspect the meat at this factory. During the past two years there has been a temporary additional veterinary officer appointed to cope with the increasing work.

The Report of the Chief Veterinary Officer is appended below.

I beg to submit a report on the work performed by the Veterinary Surgeons during the year 1938.

There was a decrease in the number of animals handled, but the percentage of diseases found remains fairly constant year by year, and although a mass attack upon bovine tuberculosis is going on throughout the country, this is as yet not reflected in the case of animals other than cattle. About one-half of the diseases encountered are under the heading of "Tuberculosis."

In addition to meat inspection, various other veterinary duties were carried out, such as tuberculin testing, work under the Diseases of Animals Acts, blood sampling, etc., and collaboration with research institutions. The examination of food products for export increased during the year, and a list of the countries importing these Brierley Hill products is shown in this report.

The total percentage of meat condemned was:—

Carcases ...	0.2%	Stomachs ...	1%
Heads ...	8%	Spleens ...	1%
Lungs ...	9%	Kidneys ...	1.5%
Hearts ...	5%	Intestines ...	12%
Livers ...	10%	Other parts ...	0.2%

Percentage of diseases encountered:—

All animals ...	23%
Cattle ...	0.2%
Sheep ...	0.8%
Pigs ...	22%

The above percentages include diseases both localised and generalised.

Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stmchs.	Spleens	Kidneys	In- testines	Other parts	Diseases.
236	13968	7071	7071	7071	1517	601	581	20512	117 Fq. 31 Hq.	Tuberculosis
-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Strongylosis
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Melanosis
6	6	4982	6	6	6	6	12	6	1 Fq.	Pl. & Pneumonia
-	-	-	2609	-	-	-	-	-	-	Pericarditis
-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	Endocarditis
-	-	-	-	3873	-	-	-	-	-	Cirrhosis
-	-	33	-	581	-	103	3	2	102 Om.	Hydatids
-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	Haemangioma
-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	Fatty Infiltration
-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	Fatty Degeneration
6	6	6	6	7500	701	719	12	1170	-	Peritonitis
-	-	-	-	-	263	-	-	-	-	Gastritis
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	33	-	Enteritis
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	Hernia
-	-	2031	-	11	-	126	-	-	-	Congestion
-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	Strangulation
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	81	-	-	Nephritis
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1962	-	-	Hydronephrs.
2	8	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	8 F, 17 H.	Pyæmia
-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 Fq.	Gangrene
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3	17 Fq.	Empyæmia
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7 Hq.	Bone Fracture
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1 Hq.	Bruising
9	10	9	9	9	9	9	2	1	-	Decomposition
13	13	13	13	13	13	13	18	9	-	Fevered Flesh
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	26	13	-	Sarcocysts
14	14	14	14	14	14	14	6	3	-	S. Erysipelas
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	28	14	-	S. Fever
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	20	10	-	Paratyphoid
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	4	2	-	Jaundice
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20	10	-	Metritis
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	-	Emaciation
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	-	Oedema
13	13	13	13	13	13	13	26	13	-	Died Lirage
53	53	53	53	53	53	53	106	53	-	Died Transit
385	14125	14268	9839	19189	2624	1703	2925	21865	145 Forequarters 56 Hindquarters 102 Omentums	

Summary of Meat Condemned. **SHEEP AND LAMBS.**

Car-cases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stms.	Spleen	Kidneys	In-testines	Other Parts	Diseases
—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	Tuberculosis
—	—	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Pleurisy and Pneumonia
—	—	1377	—	534	—	—	—	—	—	Muelleriasis
—	—	—	—	27	—	—	—	—	—	Hydatid Cysts
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Fascioliasis
—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Congestion
—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	Fatty Infiltration
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—	Jaundice
—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Melanosis
—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	Pyæmia
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—	Mastitis
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—	Died in transit
3	3	1409	3	568	3	3	6	3	—	Total

Summary of Meat Condensed. **CATTLE AND CALVES.**

Car-cases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stms.	Spleens	Kidneys	In-testines	Other	Diseases
—	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Tongue	Actinomycosis
2	48	85	25	20	5	3	4	46	4 Fq.	Tuberculosis
—	—	190	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Pleurisy, Pneumonia
—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	Pericarditis
—	1	66	—	73	—	—	—	—	—	Hydatids
—	—	—	—	391	—	—	—	—	—	Fascioliasis
—	—	—	—	36	—	—	—	—	—	B. Necrosis
—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	Cav. Angioma
—	1	3	—	10	1	1	—	—	1 hq, 1 Bkt.	Pyæmia
—	—	—	—	—	8	29	—	11	—	Peritonitis
—	—	—	—	—	—	21	—	—	—	Congestion
—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	Abscess
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Hq.	Fractures
—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	John's Disease
—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	Cirrhosis
—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	Gastritis
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—	Jaundice
2	64	345	38	540	20	55	6	59	1 Tongue 1 Brisket 4 Forequarters 2 Hindquarters	

Table showing percentage of Pathological Conditions found in Pigs examined by the Veterinary Staff.

Disease.							Percentage.
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Peritonitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Pleurisy and Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cirrhosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pericarditis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Congestion	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hydronephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hydatid Cysts...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.3
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.1
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.04
Pyæmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.02
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.02
Empyæma	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.01
Swine Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.007
Fevered Flesh	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.006
Swine Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.005
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.005
Decomposition...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.005
Strangulation	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.005
Endocarditis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.005
Strongylosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.004
Fatty Degeneration	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.004
Hernia	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.004
Bone Fractures	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.004
Cavernous Angioma	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.001
Gangrene	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.001
Bruising	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.001
Sarcocysts	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.001
Paratyphoid	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.001
Melanosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.0005
Fatty Infiltration	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.0005
Acute Metritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.0005
Emaciation	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.0005
Oedema	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.0005
Died in lairage	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.006
Died in transit	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.03

## Pathological Conditions in Sheep.

Disease.							Percentage
Muelleriasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Hydatid Cysts...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Fascioliasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.3
Pleurisy and Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.2
Congestion	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.02
Pyæmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.02
Fatty Infiltration	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.01
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.01
Melanosia	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.01
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.01
Septic Mastitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.01
Died in transit	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.01

## Pathological Conditions in Cattle.

Disease.							Percentage.
Fascioliasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Pleurisy and Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Hydatid Cysts...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Bacterial Necrosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Peritonitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Congestion	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pyæmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.7
Actinomycosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.6
Pericarditis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.5
Cavernous Angioma	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.3
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.1
Abscess	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.04
Bone Fractures	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.04
Johne's Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.04
Cirrhosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.04
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.04

During the second half of 1938, the record of Veterinary Certificates issued for goods exported abroad shows that food products were exported to the following countries :—

Argentina	France.	Spain.
Australia.	Germany.	Sweden.
Bahamas.	Holland.	Switzerland.
Belgium.	Hong Kong.	St. Helena.
Belgian Congo.	India.	Sierra Leone.
Burma.	Jamaica.	South Africa.
Canary Islands	Mauritius.	West Africa.
Egypt.	Norway.	West Indies.
Eire.	Palestine.	United States of
Finland.	Portugal.	America.

In addition numerous certificates were issued for re-export through agents.

Post-mortem examinations on animals that have died a natural death :—

Cause of Death.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
Anaemia ... ..	—	—	6
Asphyxia ... ..	—	2	6
Blackleg ... ..	—	1	—
Gastro-Enteritis ... ..	—	1	17
Gastric-Impaction ... ..	—	10	—
Pulpy Kidney Disease ... ..	—	4	—
Peritonitis ... ..	—	1	1
Pneumonia and Pleurisy ... ..	—	3	34
Swine Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	2
Swine Fever ... ..	—	—	2
Syncope ... ..	—	1	42
Strangulated Hernia ... ..	—	—	1
Toxaemia ... ..	—	7	—

### Contagious Diseases.

Eleven cases of Swine Fever were dealt with under the Diseases of Animals Acts and Orders, on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

### **Tuberculin Testing.**

The Attested Herd was maintained during the year and 152 tests were carried out.

### **Other Work.**

One case of alleged food poisoning was found to be negative. Material was forwarded to the Research Officer appointed by the Agriculture Research Council to carry out an investigation into the incidence of avian and bovine tuberculosis in pigs. This work has now been temporarily suspended. Material from cattle and pigs was sent to the Department of Bacteriology and Preventive Medicine, Manchester University, and blood samples were sent to the Research Institute in Animal Pathology, Royal Veterinary Hospital, London.

The temporary assistant, Dr. Thalau, left on 1st August, 1938.

The Agriculture Act, 1937, was enforced on 1st April, 1938, when the Animal Health Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was formed. The Chief Veterinary Surgeon was appointed as the Ministry's Local Veterinary Inspector (Panel "A") for the work under his supervision.

In conclusion, I would like to express thanks to all who have assisted the veterinary staff during the year.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

D. J. ANTHONY.

### **Adulteration, Etc.**

The County Authority is responsible for all inspections and for taking action in these cases.

### **Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.**

The County is the responsible Authority.

## SECTION F.

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

During the year there was a decreased incidence in most of the infectious diseases. The following Table shows the number of cases of each of the diseases notified during the year, the number sent to hospital and the deaths from these diseases.

TABLE VI.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

(Other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1938.

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Small-Pox ... ..	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	23	15	—
Diphtheria ... ..	56	55	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ... ..	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	13	12	—
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	59	*	47
Erysipelas ... ..	22	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	2	—	—
Puerperal Fever ... ..	2	2	—
Totals ... ..	177	84	43

\*Number of cases admitted to hospital unknown ; these cases are admitted by the general practitioners directly to hospital.

TABLE VII.

The following Table gives the age-incidence of the Notifiable Diseases.

Age Periods	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Pyrexia and Puerperal Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
0—	—	—	—	—	—	2
1—	—	—	5	—	—	—
2—	?	1	3	—	—	—
3—	2	1	—	—	—	—
4—	3	4	1	—	—	—
5—	—	25	3	1	—	—
10—	5	13	4	—	—	—
15—	2	3	7	1	—	—
20—	—	7	4	—	2	—
25—	1	1	1	—	5	—
30—	—	—	7	1	3	—
35—	1	—	4	3	1	—
40—	—	—	5	2	2	—
45—	—	1	4	—	—	—
50—	—	—	4	2	—	—
55—	—	—	2	3	—	—
60—	—	—	—	4	—	—
65 and over	—	—	5	5	—	—
	23	56	59	22	13	2

## NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

### Diphtheria.

56 cases of Diphtheria were notified in 1938, as compared with 43 in 1936, and 23 in 1937. This gives a rate of 1.21 per 1,000 of the population for 1938, as compared with 0.50 for 1937. The rate for the country as a whole is 1.58 so that our rate is below that for the country as a whole. The cases we had were nearly all moderately severe and were all admitted to hospital. There were no cases of Diphtheria in immunised children.

There was one death from Diphtheria during the year, giving a mortality rate of 0.02 per 1,000 of the population.

### Immunisation.

We can now definitely say that over 60% of our school population has been immunised. The value of immunisation has been proved during the year; to quote only two cases: in a large family of six children two developed Diphtheria, both of whom were pre-school children who had not been immunised. All the other children had been immunised and escaped infection. In

another family one child developed Diphtheria of a very severe character, the other child who was sleeping in the same bed had been immunised and escaped absolutely.

In four cases positive swabs were found in children who had been immunised; one of these cases was definitely a carrier. She had no signs of Diphtheria, and was only swabbed as a contact. Another two cases had only signs of acute tonsillitis and no serum was given. The other case developed a very mild attack of Diphtheria after having been in contact with a severe case.

A Table is appended of the immunisation figures for the year. It will be noted that no school has obtained 100% this year. It is very noticeable that where a teacher takes an active interest in promoting immunisation a much higher percentage of acceptances is obtained.

An attempt is being made to immunise the pre-school child and 107 have been done at the various Centres, where Immunisation Clinics have been held when sufficient consents have been obtained.

Despite all efforts in this direction the parents are most unwilling to have their children immunised before they go to school. Also if they think their children will be immunised in the Junior School they prefer to wait until they are older.

Last year most of the Junior Schools were offered immunisation treatment, but this procedure has not been repeated this year because it was found that many parents if they knew their children were to be treated in the Junior School would refuse immunisation until they were older. Two Junior Schools which were not offered this treatment last year are included in the attached list.

In addition the following were immunised in Welfare Centres and privately, and in various Schools at the request of the parents.

Brierley Hill	...	...	24
Quarry Bank	...	...	28
Pensnett	...	...	11
Wordsley	...	...	24
Kingswinford	...	...	20
			<hr/> 107
Private :—			
General Practitioners...	...		14
			<hr/> 121
Intermediate School	...	...	2
Brockmoor Senior Girls...	...	...	3
Bent Street Senior Boys	...	...	3
			<hr/> 129

**TABLE VIII.**  
Diphtheria Immunisation in 1938

School.	Number on Register.	Number present previously immunised.	Papers sent.	Consents.	Percentage of Consents.	Number injected 1938.	Total done (1938 and before).	Percentage of immunised children to total on Register.
<b>WORDSLEY—</b>								
Lawswood Road C. Infants' ...	129	48	81	32	39	31	79	61
Brook Street C. Infants' ...	60	19	41	20	48	20	39	65
<b>KINGSWINFORD—</b>								
St. Mary's Infants' ...	72	35	37	26	70	26	61	85
St. Mary's Junior ...	264	184	80	41	51	41	225	81
Glynne C. Infants' ...	38	15	23	12	52	12	27	71
<b>PESNETT—</b>								
C. Infants ...	170	42	128	54	42	54	96	56
Birds Meadow Inf. ...	161	42	119	51	43	51	93	58
<b>WALL HEATH—</b>								
C. Infants ...	65	24	41	21	51	21	45	69
Junior Mixed ...	203	74	129	58	45	58	132	65
<b>BROCKMOOR—C. Infants ...</b>	207	83	124	24	20	24	107	52
<b>HAWBUSH ROAD—C. Infants</b>	259	181	78	38	49	38	219	81
<b>MOUNT PLEASANT—Infants...</b>	84	50	34	33	97	33	83	99
<b>QUARRY BANK—Infants ...</b>	209	99	110	61	55	61	160	77
<b>BRIERLEY HILL—Mill Street</b>	247	151	44	25	57	24	175	71
Bent Street	149	48	101	43	42	43	91	60
R.C.	60	22	38	28	74	28	50	83
<b>Total</b>	2377	1117	1208	537	46.9 %	565	1682	71 %

### **Scarlet Fever.**

The incidence of Scarlet Fever was less during 1938 than during 1937. 23 cases were notified as compared with 51 in 1937 and 97 in 1936. This gives us a rate of 0.49 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 1.11 for 1937 and 2.41 for the country as a whole. The disease was on the whole of a mild character.

15 cases were admitted into hospital, or 65.2 of the total cases notified. There were no deaths from this disease during 1938.

The policy has been not to admit cases of uncomplicated Scarlet Fever to hospital where they can be adequately nursed at home with proper isolation.

All contacts of Scarlet Fever have been followed up and one carrier of Haemolytic Streptococci was traced, who was found to have been responsible for four cases of Scarlet Fever.

Another case of Scarlet Fever occurred in a house where the mother had been taken away two days previously with Puerperal Pyrexia.

On the whole the cases of Scarlet Fever have been mild in character and no serious complications have occurred.

### **Erysipelas.**

21 cases were notified during the year, as compared with 26 in 1937 and 34 in 1936. This gives a case rate per 1,000 of 0.45 as compared with 0.40 for the country as a whole and 0.57 for 1937.

### **Pneumonia.**

There were 59 cases of Pneumonia notified during the year as compared with 53 in 1937 and 35 in 1936. This gives us a case rate per 1,000 of 1.29 as compared with 1.10 for the country as a whole and 1.25 for 1937.

There were 47 deaths from this disease as compared with 32 in 1937. This gives a mortality rate of 1.01 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 0.72 in 1937.

### **Cerebro Spinal Fever.**

### **Acute Polio-Myelitis.**

### **Small-Pox.**

### **Enteric Fever.**

There were no cases of these diseases during the year.

### **Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

There were two cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum during the year. The cases were mild in character and none were admitted to hospital. Both made a complete recovery. The County Council provide hospital treatment if necessary in conjunction with two of the local hospitals.

### **Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia.**

There were 16 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia notified during the year. All of these cases were admitted to hospital.

When received, a copy of the notification is sent forthwith to the County Medical Officer and the County Council make available the following services :—

- (1) The services of a consultant.
- (2) Bacteriological examination.
- (3) Admission to hospital.
- (4) Provision of a trained nurse.

All cases of Puerperal Pyrexia and Puerperal Fever are investigated on behalf of the County Council.

From October, 1937, all cases notified as Puerperal Fever have been included under Puerperal Pyrexia at the request of the Ministry.

### **Vaccination.**

The following Table shows the position with regard to Vaccination during the year :—

(1) Successfully vaccinated	...	174
(2) Conscientious objectors	...	581
(3) Died before vaccination	...	47
		<hr/>
		802
		<hr/>

22.5% of the children born were thus successfully vaccinated. Though this percentage is most unsatisfactory it is actually a little better than last year when we found that only 20.3 of the children born were successfully vaccinated.

Once again an opportunity is taken of pointing out the danger in the future in the increasing proportion of unvaccinated persons.

### **Non-Notifiable Infectious Disease.**

During the year there were no serious outbreaks of non-notifiable Infectious Disease.

The weekly returns sent by head teachers of children absent on account of infectious disease was found particularly helpful in the case of these non-notifiable diseases.

### **Whooping Cough.**

There was one death from Whooping Cough during the year as compared with three deaths in 1937. This gives a mortality rate of 0.02 as compared with 0.03 for the country as a whole and 0.07 for 1937.

### **Measles.**

There were no deaths from Measles during 1938 as compared with four deaths during 1937. The mortality rate for the country as a whole is 0.04.

### **Influenza.**

There were 14 deaths from Influenza during the year, as compared with 31 for 1937. This gives a mortality rate of 0.30 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 0.68 for 1937. The mortality rate for the country as a whole is 0.11 for 1938.

### **Prevention of Blindness.**

No action was taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, for the prevention of blindness.

### **Tuberculosis.**

In 1938 the number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified was 38 (21 males and 17 females) as compared with 55 cases in 1937 (31 males and 24 females), so that a decrease has occurred in the incidence in both sexes.

There were 12 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified (8 males and 4 females) as compared with 16 cases (7 males and 9 females) in 1937.

### **Deaths.**

There were 35 deaths from Tuberculosis during the year, of which 30 were pulmonary cases (24 males and 6 females) as compared with 25 deaths in 1937, when the sex distribution was 22 males and 3 females.

It will be noted that there were many more deaths among males than among females, and the deaths fairly evenly distributed between the ages of 20 and 55 among the males.

There were also 5 deaths from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis (3 males and 2 females) as compared with 6 deaths in 1937 (2 males and 4 females).

It will be seen from the Table below that the 12 cases which were not notified or only notified within three months of death form 34.2% of the total deaths. In fairness it must be stated that three of these were non-pulmonary cases—one was a very acute type of disease in an infant, and one had not been attended by a medical practitioner.

Three deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis occurred in un-notified cases, of these two were notified after death, five in cases which had been notified less than a month, and nine in cases which had been notified less than three months.

It has been the policy of this Council to re-house cases of Tuberculosis which are overcrowded or living in unsatisfactory conditions. With the normal housing progress under the Housing Acts a large number of these cases have been rehoused automatically—many of them were living in overcrowded houses or in houses which have since been demolished in the process of slum clearance.

There are still cases which cannot occupy a separate bedroom and every one of these cases has been thoroughly investigated.

Of the 280 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis on the register at the end of the year 97 cases were in Council houses. Many cases are now inactive and it has been the endeavour of this department to provide a separate bedroom for every case of active Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Unfortunately where separate bedrooms accommodation is available it is extremely difficult to persuade husband and wife to occupy separate rooms. Where separate rooms are used it is often found that the living rooms, which are occupied by others as well as the patient during most of the day, are not sufficiently ventilated. The windows are usually closed and even people who have been to sanatoria and instructed in fresh air habits do not carry out the advice they have received when they reach their own homes. This is a matter which should be particularly stressed. Health Visitors spend a considerable portion of their time giving advice to people for their own good—advice which is not always carried out.

It is important that cases of Tuberculosis should be brought to the prompt attention of medical men. It is often impossible even for a trained person to make a diagnosis in the early stages without an extensive examination, and many people who ignore the first signs of illness would not only save their own lives but cease to be a source of infection to others if they obtained skilled advice in the early days of their illness,

The incidence of Tuberculosis is being reduced, but if only patients who are suffering from this disease would take precautions not only for their own benefit but for the benefit of their families much more would be accomplished in the reduction of this disease.

The re-housing of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis is not always a simple matter. These patients are very often unable to pay normal rents and the economic factor does loom very high in the majority of cases. It is undisputed that every man should have a good home, satisfactory food and recreative facilities, but these essentials are of paramount importance in the case of the tuberculous patient.

In some cases the patients are too proud to obtain money for their needs from available sources and it is hoped that possibly in the future when rent adjustments are made it might be possible to provide additional rent relief in some of these needy cases.

The following survey shows the housing conditions of 145 persons on the register suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. The remaining 135 cases are not considered infectious at present.

Total.	Separate bedroom.	Shares bed.	Separate bed in same room.
145	87	29	29

**TABLE IX.**

Abstract of Annual Figures from Register of Tuberculous Cases.

	Males		Females.		Total
	Pul-monary.	Non-Pul-monary.	Pul-monary.	Non-Pul-monary.	
Number on Register 1st January, 1938 ...	170	49	138	39	396
New Notifications, 1938 ...	21	8	17	4	50
Cases brought to notice, otherwise than by formal notification (inward transfers, un-notified cases from Deaths Returns) ...	2	—	1	—	3
Removed from Register, Deaths, Outward Transfers, Recovered ...	46	6	23	4	79
Number on Register, 31st December, 1938 ...	147	51	133	39	570

Table X as set out on next page shows the age and sex distribution of new cases of Tuberculosis (including cases coming to knowledge other than by formal notification) and a similar distribution of deaths from Tuberculosis.

Total deaths from Tuberculosis ...	35	
Total not notified or only notified after death ...	3	8.5%
Total notified within 3 months of death ...	9	25.7%
Total notified within 3 months of death or unnotified ...	12	34.2%

TABLE X.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Males.		Females.		Males		Females	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1 to 5 years	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
5 to 10 years	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-
10 to 15 years	1	1	3	-	1	-	1	-
15 to 20 years	1	1	6	-	-	1	-	-
20 to 25 years	2	-	1	1	3	-	-	-
25 to 30 years	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	-
30 to 35 years	2	-	3	-	3	-	-	-
35 to 40 years	4	-	3	-	4	-	2	-
40 to 45 years	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
45 to 50 years	5	-	-	1	2	-	1	-
50 to 55 years	1	-	1	-	3	-	-	-
55 to 60 years	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
60 to 65 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	23	7	18	3	27	2	5	1

### Cancer and Malignant Disease.

Deaths from Cancer and other forms of Malignant Disease amounted to 71, or 14.64% of the total deaths. Last year the corresponding figure was 60, or 11.67% of the total deaths.

For comparative purposes this figure 71 gives a crude mortality rate of 1531 per million, as compared with a figure of 1308 per million for 1937.

There were 32 deaths amongst males and 39 amongst females.

Distribution of this disease according to age and sex and the organs affected is in Table XI. which is appended below.

**TABLE XI.**  
Deaths during 1938.

Site of Lesion.	Age and Sex Periods.												Totals		
	Under 25		25-35		35-45		45-55		55-65		65 & over		M	F	Both Sexes
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			
Brain	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Larynx, Pharynx and Oesophagus	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	3
Breast	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	2	1	1	5	6
Stomach	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	4	1	2	6	6	11	17
Liver and Gall Bladder	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	2	2	4
Intestines and Rectum	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	4	11	7	15	11	26
Kidney	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prostate and Bladder	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1
Ovary and Uterus	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	4	-	7	7
Lymphatic Glands	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Lungs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	2
Skin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	3	-	3
Totals	1	-	1	1	3	3	4	9	9	18	22	32	39	71	

## HEALTH PROPAGANDA.

This has been pursued steadily throughout the year, but no Health Week has been held. I have spoken at various public meetings, and the points raised have included Diet, Diphtheria Immunization, and the regular use of Clinics, etc.

The Brierley Hill Urban District Council have recently purchased a film from the Birmingham Corporation entitled "Growing to Health and Happiness." This film shows normal healthy children in the Welfare Centre, the nursery school and the elementary schools. It then shows paralysed children and children suffering from the after-effects of Diphtheria.

Arrangements have been made for it to be shown at various Picture Houses throughout the district during the coming year.

I give the following information about the South Staffordshire and North Worcestershire Public Medical Service, as I consider it of great importance :—

The South Staffordshire and North Worcestershire Public Medical Service is a method whereby persons can insure the attendance of their own doctor in the case of illness, by means of a fixed weekly or fortnightly contribution. This has been effected by the medical practitioners in the area banding together to arrange for such treatment and collection of subscriptions.

The provision of such treatment is for those persons who are unable to pay the ordinary medical charges. The cost of subscription is threepence per week per person (under 50 years of age at the time of entry into the service) with a maximum weekly subscription of one shilling no matter how large the family. For persons over 50 years of age at the time of entry into the service the subscription is sixpence per week.

The local service which was inaugurated in January, 1936, covers Stourbridge, Lye, Brierley Hill, Brockmoor, Pensnett, Kingswinford, Wallheath and Dudley. The membership, which is steadily increasing, now stands at 7,500 subscribers and the service has 32 medical practitioners on the books.

Public Medical Services are in operation in the majority of the larger towns in the country and have proved to have filled in a gap in Medical Service which has long been overdue, and are beginning to play an important part in the Health Services of the nation, and one that will become more and more useful as its activities become more widely known.



# REPORT

## OF THE

### Chief Sanitary Inspector.

---

I beg to present my fifth Report on the work carried out in my department which includes Public Cleansing, to the 31st March, 1939.

Much progress has been made with housing and when the housing details are referred to I think they give cause for some satisfaction.

Standards are getting higher, consequently the elimination of the worn old houses must continue.

It is gratifying to record that in many cases owners of poor houses have agreed without pressure to demolish rather than endeavour to save by reconstruction of the old structure which can only prolong their life for but a short period.

The provision of sewers in parts of the Birch Coppice has effected a big improvement in that area.

I have to acknowledge again the very willing assistance I have received from the staff and from the officers of all other departments.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee I again tender my thanks.

H. J. PARKER,

*Chief Sanitary Inspector  
and Cleansing Superintendent.*

### Summary of Inspections, 1938.

(Houses other than Council Houses).

				Inspections.	Re-inspections.
<b>Housing.</b>					
Section 9	...	...	...	273	2992
Section 11	...	...	...	316	399
Section 12	...	...	...	63	77
Clearance Areas	...	...	...	296	153
Other Visits	...	...	...	2050	162
<b>Public Health Acts.</b>					
Houses	...	...	...	648	701
Overcrowding	...	...	...	401	29
Water Supply	...	...	...	7	6
Schools	...	...	...	2	4
Entertainment Houses	...	...	...	15	—
Ashes accommodation	...	...	...	36	25
Accumulations	...	...	...	71	37
Animals or Birds	...	...	...	38	35
Yards Courts etc.	...	...	...	51	52
Drainage inspected	...	...	...	388	18
Drainage tested	...	...	...	133	—
Water Closets, Wash-houses etc.	...	...	...	84	48
Cesspools	...	...	...	15	3
Urinals	...	...	...	7	—
Sewers and Street Gullies	...	...	...	2	—
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	118	—
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	5	1
Rag and Bone Dealers	...	...	...	9	—
Canal Boats	...	...	...	2	—
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	15	1
Rivers Pollution	...	...	...	13	—
<b>Bye-Laws.</b>					
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	20	5
Stable Premises	...	...	...	24	17
Piggeries	...	...	...	27	5
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	3086	4
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	27	5
Fish Fryers	...	...	...	65	8
<b>Factory Act.</b>					
Factories with mechanical power	...	...	...	136	24
Factories without mechanical power	...	...	...	127	22
Bakehouses	...	...	...	34	14
Outworkers	...	...	...	24	—

**Summary of Inspections—continued.**

			Inspections.	Re-inspections.
<b>Milk and Dairies.</b>				
Cowsheds	...	...	94	23
Dairies	...	...	72	14
Clean Milk Sediment tests		...	12	—
Miscellaneous	...	...	16	9
<b>Meat Regulations.</b>				
Food Premises and Markets	...		1268	19
Other food premises	...	...	33	—
Meat and Food seizures		...	5	—
Cold Stores	...	...	44	—
Slaughtering on unlicensed premises			35	—
Petroleum Acts	...	...	64	1
Rats and Mice Act		...	22	—
Shops Act	...	...	1282	28
Interviews with Owners, etc., on				
Property	...	...	370	—
Public Conveniences		...	3	—
Licensed Premises	...	...	32	45
Public Cleansing	...	...	55	—
Disinfection	...	...	3	—
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	498	18
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			12554	4903

**Complaints.**

514 complaints were recorded against 391 for 1937; 343 related to stoppages in drain pipes. All these complaints are dealt with immediately by the department, a workman being sent to the property to relieve the nuisance.

171 of the complaints related to housing conditions, etc., all of which were investigated and where necessary action taken.

**Infectious Disease Prevention.**

118 visits were made to cases of infectious disease, and the following were dealt with:—

Houses disinfected ... ..	...	116
Library Books disinfected ... ..	...	7

**Disinfestation.**

During the year the following number of houses have been sprayed with an insecticide for the reasons stated :—

**OTHER HOUSES.**

Vermin.			Number of Houses sprayed	Number of Sprayings	Vermin found
Bugs or Fleas	...	...	528	555	35
Crickets	...	...	2	2	1
Cockroaches	...	...	4	7	4
Ants	...	...	3	3	2
Totals			537	567	42

**COUNCIL HOUSES.**

Vermin			Number of houses sprayed	Number of Sprayings	Vermin found
Bugs or Fleas	...	..	126	192	26
Crickets	...	...	123	279	82
Cockroaches	...	...	8	8	3
Ants, etc.	...	...	6	12	6
Totals			263	491	117
<b>Totals (all houses)</b>			<b>800</b>	<b>1058</b>	<b>159</b>

We still continue testing all houses before tenants are allowed to move into a Council house ; this accounts for the large number of houses sprayed. It has certainly been worth while as in several instances vermin have been found when the house was thought to be clear.

**Sanitary Improvements Carried Out as a Result of Inspections  
made and Notices Served. (Work actually carried out).**

**Dwelling-houses.**

Houses demolished	...	...	...	...	435
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	297
House brickwork re-pointed	...	...	...	...	230
Gables cement rendered	...	...	...	...	10
Gables tarred	...	...	...	...	8
Chimney stacks re-built	...	...	...	...	26
Chimney Stacks re-pointed	...	...	...	...	182
Defective brickwork of walls rebuilt	...	...	...	...	16
Dangerous walls rebuilt or repaired	...	...	...	...	7
Rainwater Spouting repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	203
Vertical damp-proof courses provided	...	...	...	...	100
Horizontal damp-proof courses provided	...	...	...	...	22
Walls and Ceilings: plasterwork					
repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	588
Walls and Ceilings cleansed	...	...	...	...	904
New Ceilings constructed	...	...	...	...	87
New Firegrates provided	...	...	...	...	111
Firegrates repaired	...	...	...	...	107
New Doors provided	...	...	...	...	32
Doors and Door Frames repaired	...	...	...	...	108
New Door Sills provided	...	...	...	...	34
Locks and Keys provided	...	...	...	...	32
Latches provided	...	...	...	...	42
Door Steps repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	9
New Windows provided	...	...	...	...	77
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	459
Sash Cords renewed	...	...	...	...	329
Top sashes of windows hung	...	...	...	...	87
Window Fasteners provided	...	...	...	...	187
Windows made to open	...	...	...	...	77
New Window Casements provided	...	...	...	...	60
Light and ventilation provided to bedrooms	...	...	...	...	21
Ventilation provided to living rooms	...	...	...	...	7
Quarry Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	148
Living rooms floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	66
Bedroom floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	102
Skirting Boards provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	154
Bathrooms provided	...	...	...	...	2
Bedrooms partitioned off	...	...	...	...	3
New Stairs provided	...	...	...	...	12
Stairs repaired	...	...	...	...	81
Hand-Rails on stairs provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	170
New light provided on stairs	...	...	...	...	6

New Pantries provided	...	...	...	18
Pantry Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	8
Pantry Floors raised	...	...	...	14
Pantry Shelves provided	...	...	...	3
Pantries filled in	...	...	...	20
Ventilation provided to pantries	...	...	...	40
Pantries limewashed	...	...	...	65
Internal Walls built	...	...	...	4
Cellar Walls rendered or limewashed	...	...	...	26
New cellar floors provided	...	...	...	6
Cellars filled in	...	...	...	2
Cellar wall and Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	1
Cellar Steps repaired	...	...	...	6
Ventilation provided to cellars	...	...	...	3
Water removed from cellars	...	...	...	2
New Covers to cellar lights provided	...	...	...	51
Cellar Walls limewashed	...	...	...	17
Verandahs repaired	...	...	...	14
Verandah's limewashed	...	...	...	7
Woodwork of houses repainted	...	...	...	234
Internal woodwork repainted	...	...	...	43
New rooms provided	...	...	...	3
Back-to-back Houses converted to through	...	...	...	18
Houses infested with vermin cleansed	...	...	...	9
Dirty houses—tenant's neglect	...	...	...	25
Dirty bedding—tenant's neglect	...	...	...	10
Baths cleansed	...	...	...	6
Name of M.O.H. and Permitted	Number	not	inserted	
in Rent Book	...	...	...	100
Boundary walls rebuilt	...	...	...	9
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	78

### **Wash-houses, Water Closets, etc.**

New wash-houses provided	...	...	...	34
New sculleries provided	...	...	...	5
Wash-house roofs repaired	...	...	...	101
Wash-house doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	30
Wash-house chimneys repointed or rebuilt	...	...	...	58
Wash-house windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	102
Wash-house brickwork repointed	...	...	...	62
New wash-house floors provided	...	...	...	46
Wash-house floors repaired	...	...	...	34
Insanitary brick sinks demolished	...	...	...	42
New earthenware sinks provided	...	...	...	63
Water supply provided to sinks	...	...	...	42
Wash-houses limewashed	...	...	...	124
Washing boilers provided or repaired	...	...	...	33

New lids provided to washing boilers	...	...	14
Washing furnaces provided or repaired	...	...	26
Brickwork of washing boilers repaired	...	...	25
Old baking ovens demolished	...	...	24
Permanent means of ventilation provided	...	...	1
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	34
Gully traps provided	...	...	20
New water closets provided	...	...	109
W.C. brickwork repaired or repointed	...	...	41
W.C. roofs repaired	...	...	25
W.C. floors repaired or renewed	...	...	31
W.C. doors repaired	...	...	13
Leaking W.C. joints repaired	...	...	20
W.C. flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	37
W.C. pans provided	...	...	22
W.C. seats renewed	...	...	47
Brickwork and woodwork removed from W.C. pan	...	...	5
New chain pulls to flushing cisterns	...	...	3
W.C. ceilings reconstructed	...	...	2
W.C. windows provided or renewed	...	...	7
W.C. ventilation provided	...	...	7
Water supply provided to W.C.	...	...	10
Rainwater spouting provided or repaired to wash- houses and W.C.'s	...	...	147
Rainwater cisterns repaired	...	...	7
Rainwater cisterns filled in	...	...	4
W.C.'s limewashed	...	...	127
Coal stores provided	...	...	52
Coal stores repaired	...	...	40
New doors provided to coal stores	...	...	13
Privy middens demolished	...	...	2
Slop closets converted to water closets	...	...	15
Pan closets converted to water closets	...	...	1
Low pressure hot water systems provided	...	...	4
Yards paved or paving repaired	...	...	218
Yard gates provided	...	...	7
Entries limewashed	...	...	47
Entry ceiling plaster repaired	...	...	24
Entries paved	...	...	8
Dilapidated outbuildings demolished	...	...	58
Ashpits demolished	...	...	29
Ashbins provided	...	...	321
Water taps removed from yards	...	...	3
Dirty W.C. pans—tenant's neglect	...	...	10
Dirty yards—tenant's neglect	...	...	18
Miscellaneous	...	...	27

**Drainage.**

Insanitary privy middens demolished	...	...	14
New drainage laid	...	...	84
Houses provided with proper drainage	...	...	8
Obstructed drains cleared	...	...	369
Drains repaired or reconstructed	...	...	60
Inspection chambers provided	...	...	18
New covers provided to inspection chambers	...	...	18
Trapped drain inlets provided	...	...	41
Ventilation shafts provided	...	...	50
Waste pipes repaired	...	...	15
Drain inlets removed	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	6

**Slaughter Houses.**

Walls limewashed after notice	...	...	7
Glazed walls not properly cleansed	...	...	6
Walls of slaughterhouse rendered with glazed tiles	...	...	4
Lairages limewashed	...	...	9
Dirty windows cleansed	...	...	2
Offal bin cleansed	...	...	3
Hanging room limewashed	...	...	1
Floors relaid	...	...	2
Yard relaid	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	12

**Food Premises.**

Food shops cleansed	...	...	15
W.C. cleansed	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	2

**Smoke Abatement.**

Smoke nuisance remedied	...	...	11
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**Shops Acts.**

Shops ventilated...	...	...	12
Seats provided for girl assistants	...	...	2
Young persons employed in excess of maximum hours allowed	...	...	3
Washing facilities provided	...	...	3
W.C. accommodation provided	...	...	2
Facilities for meals provided	...	...	2
Walls of shops cleansed	...	...	13
Forms required to be exhibited	...	...	7
Proper means of heating provided	...	...	2
Stores cleansed	...	...	6

**Ice Cream Premises.**

Dirty hands of milk vendor	...	...	...	1
Premises prohibited	...	...	...	1
Room cleansed	...	...	...	1

**Licensed Premises.**

Walls and ceilings cleansed	...	...	...	40
Premises rebuilt	...	...	...	10
Urinals provided	...	...	...	11
Water closets provided, additional	...	...	...	31
Living room accommodation provided	...	...	...	2
Windows provided or repaired	...	...	...	3
Walls repointed	...	...	...	5
Wash-houses limewashed	...	...	...	12
Sanitary conveniences limewashed	...	...	...	16
Sanitary conveniences not marked	...	...	...	10
Sanitary conveniences not screened	...	...	...	4
Wash-ups provided	...	...	...	2
Bathrooms provided	...	...	...	12
Cellars limewashed	...	...	...	6
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	1
Licensed rooms—general repairs	...	...	...	36
Firegrates repaired	...	...	...	3
Roof repaired	...	...	...	2
Brewery limewashed	...	...	...	1
Drainage repaired or relaid	...	...	...	9
Wash-hand basins provided	...	...	...	5
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	28

**Offensive Trades.**

Marine store dealers' premises limewashed	...	...	...	3
Walls of fish shop cleansed	...	...	...	3
Floor of fish shop cleansed	...	...	...	1
Fish frying room cleansed	...	...	...	2
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	1
Offensive trade not registered	...	...	...	1
Premises limewashed	...	...	...	1
Grease proof paper provided	...	...	...	3
New range provided	...	...	...	2
Gutting room provided complete	...	...	...	1
Gutting room wall rendered	...	...	...	1
Ventilation provided	...	...	...	1
Receptacle for offals provided	...	...	...	1
Range cleansed	...	...	...	1

**Milk and Dairies.**

Walls of cowshed limewashed after notice	...	...	...	6
Dairies limewashed	...	...	...	4
Dirty milking stools	...	...	...	1

Window light and ventilation provided	...	...	2
Internals of milk vehicles repainted	...	...	4
Purveyors of milk (loose and bottled) not registered	...	...	2
Dairy discontinued	...	...	1
Insanitary yard	...	...	1
Dirty cowsheds	...	...	2
Dirty cows	...	...	16
New Dairy provided	...	...	3
New cowshed	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	8

### Factories and Workshops.

Factories and workshops limewashed	...	...	4
W.C. or urinals limewashed	...	...	20
Privies limewashed	...	...	2
Sanitary conveniences not marked	...	...	5
Insufficient sanitary accommodation	...	...	8
W.C.'s provided	...	...	9
W.C.'s repaired	...	...	8
Washing facilities provided	...	...	1
Urinals repaired	...	...	1
Flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	3
W.C. pans cleansed	...	...	14
Miscellaneous	...	...	18

### Bakehouses.

Limewashed after notice	...	...	11
Washing facilities provided	...	...	1
Conveniences cleansed	...	...	1

### Houses Let in Lodgings.

Houses let in lodgings discontinued	...	...	5
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### Other Nuisances.

Dilapidated sheds removed	...	...	16
Stables limewashed	...	...	4
Stables demolished	...	...	1
New stables erected	...	...	1
Manure receptacles provided	...	...	2
Caravans removed	...	...	11
Accumulations of manure and other refuse removed	...	...	62
Pig keeping abolished	...	...	4
Nuisance from fowls and other animals abated	...	...	13
Fowl pens demolished	...	...	18
Stables discontinued for use as house	...	...	1
Overcrowding abated	...	...	5
Miscellaneous	...	...	5

**Letters and Notices Sent Out.**

Preliminary Notices and Housing Schedules	...	1271
Letters	... ..	2167

*Statutory Notices.*

## Public Health Act, 1936 :

Section 44	... ..	1
Section 75	... ..	40
Section 92	... ..	4

## Housing Act, 1936 :

Section 9 (repairs)	... ..	8
Section 11 (notice of time and place)	... ..	146
Section 11 (demolition order)	... ..	146
Section 11 (tenant's notice)	... ..	5
Section 12 (notice of time and place)	... ..	7
Section 12 (closing order)	... ..	8
Section 51 (certificate of fitness of a house)	... ..	9
Section 61 (licence for temporary use of a house by persons in excess of permitted number)	... ..	8
Section 66 (2) (notice to occupier to abate over- crowding)...	... ..	2
Section 168 (Requisition for information)	... ..	151

**Legal Proceedings.**

## Housing Act, 1936.

Failing to quit	... ..	Order made for possession ;
22, Coppice Lane, Quarry Bank.	house to be vacated within	twenty-one days.

## Public Health Act, 1936.

Distributing toys contrary to	Fined 20/- and costs.
Section 154.	

**HOUSING.**

At the end of 1938 the following houses had been erected or were in course of erection since 1934 when amalgamation of the three areas took place :—

**Slum Clearance.**

The Mount, Wordsley	...	...	88
Cressett Lane, Brockmoor	...	...	36
The Manor, Kingswinford	...	...	48
Dudley Fields, Brockmoor	...	...	342
Queen Street, Pensnett	...	...	174
Tack Farm, Wordsley ...	...	...	115
Bluck's Lane, Pensnett	...	...	140
Enville Road, Wallheath	...	...	10
Addison Road, Brierley Hill	...	...	7
Blewitt Street, Pensnett	...	...	32
Church Street, Pensnett	...	...	44
Belle Isle, Brierley Hill	...	...	40
Upper High Street, Pensnett	...	...	165
Coppice Lane, Quarry Bank	...	...	91
Thorns Farm, Quarry Bank	...	...	175
Wallows Road, Brockmoor	...	...	20
Hawbush, Brierley Hill	...	...	6
Total			1533

**Overcrowding.**

Dudley Fields, Brockmoor	...	...	72
Upper High Street, Pensnett	...	...	43
Enville Road, Wallheath	...	...	24
Tack Farm, Wordsley ...	...	...	28
Thorns Farm, Quarry Bank	...	...	38
Total			205

Total—Slum Clearance and Overcrowding 1738

**Non-Subsidy—**

Enville Road, Wallheath	...	...	20
Newtown, Brockmoor	...	...	10
Buckpool, Brockmoor	...	...	4
Total			34

During 1938 the following number of unfit houses were dealt with under the Housing Act :—

Section 11—Demolition Orders	...	146
Section 12—Closing Orders	...	6
Sections 9 to 12—Undertakings	...	36

making a total of 188 houses on which orders or undertakings were made and became operative.

Appeals against three demolition orders were made by one owner, these were dismissed by the County Court Judge who confirmed the orders.

In addition the following Clearance Areas were declared by your Council :—

	Houses
Parkes Street, Brierley Hill, Clearance Area No. 23	12
Bank Street, Brierley Hill, Clearance Area No. 25	4
Audnam, Wordsley, Clearance Area No. 26	6
West Street, Quarry Bank, Clearance Area No. 27	5
Level Street, Brierley Hill, Compulsory Purchase Order No. 28	11
Level Street, Brierley Hill, Compulsory Purchase Order No. 29	17
Level Street, Brierley Hill, Compulsory Purchase Order No. 30	5
Wallows Street, Brockmoor, Compulsory Purchase Order No. 31	26
Stour Hill, Quarry Bank, Clearance Area No. 32	9
Stour Hill, Quarry Bank, Clearance Area No. 33	3
Church Street, Pensnett, C.P.O. No. 34	15
Church Street, Pensnett, C.P.O. No. 35	14
Church Street, Pensnett, C.P.O. No. 36	4
Church Street, Pensnett, C.P.O. No. 37	4
Total	135

making a total of 293 houses represented as being unfit either in areas or individual unfits and action completed by the end of the year under review.

At the amalgamation of the three Authorities in April, 1934, the combined slum clearance proposals was 687. This number was increased to 1,404 in 1936 and in 1937 to 2,100. At the end of this year 1,882 unfit houses had been dealt with either by clearance areas, demolition, closing orders or undertakings, leaving 218 houses still requiring action. At the end of the year there were 210 tenants in houses on which orders were operative for whom no re-housing provisions had been made.

Ministerial Inquiries were held in respect of the following areas :—

*7th July, 1938.*

Houses.

Audnam, Wordsley, Clearance Order No. 26 ... ..	6	Clearance Order confirmed.
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*13th September, 1938.*

Silver Street, Brierley Hill, Clearance Order No. 22 ... ..	27	Do.
Parkes Street, Brierley Hill, Clearance Order No. 23 ... ..	12	Do.
Bank Street, Brierley Hill, Clearance Order No. 24 ... ..	8	Do.
Bank Street, Brierley Hill, Clearance Order No. 25 ... ..	4	Do.
Level Street, Brierley Hill, Compulsory Purchase Order No. 28 ... ..	11	Compulsory Purchase Order confirmed.
Level Street, Brierley Hill, Compulsory Purchase Order, No. 29... ..	17	Do.
Stour Hill, Quarry Bank, Clearance Order No. 32 ... ..	9	Clearance Order confirmed.
Total ... ..	94	

*No Objections.*

West Street, Quarry Bank, Clearance Order No. 27 ... ..	5	Clearance Order confirmed.
Level Street, Brierley Hill, Compulsory Purchase Order No. 30 ... ..	5	Compulsory Purchase Order confirmed.
Stour Hill, Quarry Bank, Clearance Order No. 33 ... ..	3	Clearance Order confirmed.
Total ... ..	107	

The following Orders were also confirmed during the year :—

Hulland, Brockmoor, No. 17 Compulsory Purchase Order	104
Broad Street, Pensnett, No. 18 Clearance Order ...	10
Bromley, Pensnett, No. 19 Compulsory Purchase Order...	11
Bromley, Pensnett, No. 20 Compulsory Purchase Order...	20
Bromley, Pensnett, No. 21 Compulsory Purchase Order...	16
Total ... ..	161

Re-housing continued from the previous year on quite a large scale. 1,957 persons being re-housed against 1,987 in the previous year. Re-housing is still carried out by this department, and I do not think your Council are aware of the time and trouble that has to be taken dealing with the tenants before re-housing can take place, to ensure that vermin is not taken, and further encouraging tenants not to take old furniture, pictures, etc., to the new houses.

Owing to depot difficulties it has not been possible to use Hydrogen Cyanide gas as a fumigant. All houses without exception are sprayed with Zaldecide, and in addition Cimex is also used. At no Council houses where this treatment has been given to the old house has vermin been found.

Inspection of all Council houses is made by this department, each house being visited at least once in twelve months. There are 3,762 houses, and close observation is made of all tenants who are found either dirty or untidy. At least 10% of the tenants require constant supervision. In addition a note is made of all defects found, and these are notified to the Housing Manager. One Inspector is wholly employed on this work of inspecting Council houses.

The total number of persons re-housed, and for whom subsidy has been claimed to date under the slum clearance programme, is 7,290.

	Inspections	Re-inspections	Houses where defects were found	Total Visits
Council Houses—				
New tenancies ...	575	301	26	876
Old tenancies ..	4506	454	2174	4960
Change of Tenancy ...	203	42	84	245
Dirty & Untidy Tenants	6	1252	4	1258
Overcrowding ...	13	85	—	98
Verminous houses ...	18	—	—	18
Trading ...	2	2	—	4
Other Visits ...	58	2	—	60
Totals ...	5381	2138	2288	7519

Straw Mattresses destroyed—90.

At the 31st December, 1938, the following was the position as notified to the Minister of Health of action taken under the Housing Act in this area :—

*Part I. of the Act.—Clearance Areas.*

Number of—

Unfit dwelling-houses demolished	...	...	383
Other houses demolished	...	...	5
Persons displaced from demolished houses	...	...	1717

*Part II. of the Act.—Individually Unfit Houses.*

Number of—

Houses demolished (Section 11)	...	...	851
Buildings closed (Section 12)	...	...	64
Persons displaced from above	...	...	3920
Dwelling-houses made fit—formal action	...	...	158
Voluntary demolitions	...	...	44
Dwelling-houses closed under undertaking	...	...	21
Dwelling-house made fit—informal action	...	...	1409

Total number of persons re-housed from houses demolished or closed at 31st December, was	...	...	5673
Number of persons re-housed during 1938	...	...	1957

The total number of houses erected by the Council from 1919 to 1938 is as follows :—

1919 Act	...	...	...	...	...	289
1923 Act	...	...	...	...	...	212
1924 Act	...	...	...	...	...	1520
1925 Act	...	...	...	...	...	20
1930—1936 Acts—Slum Clearance	...	...	...	...	...	1657
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	185
						3883

During the year the following new houses were erected :—

By Council	...	...	...	...	583
By private enterprise	...	...	...	...	454
					1037

**STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1938.****1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—**

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	1034
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1115
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	405
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	619
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	405
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	522

**2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices :—**

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	668
--	-----

**3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—**

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—		
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	8	
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after Service of Formal Notices :—		
	(a)	By Owners ... ..	3
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	Nil
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—		
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	5	
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices :—		
	(a)	By Owners ... ..	5
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—				
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	146
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	265
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—				
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made			6
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	17
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses made fit, undertakings having been accepted	...	...	18
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses closed, undertakings not to use for human habitation having been accepted			7

*Overcrowding.*

(a) (1) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year (31/12/38)					81
(2) Number of families dwelling therein					97
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein					655
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year					44
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year					139
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases					1021
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding					Nil

# **LIST OF HOUSES ON WHICH DEMOLITION ORDERS WERE MADE.**

Houses.	Date of Order.	Occupants.
93, 94, 96, High Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	4/1/38	5
37, 39, Delph Road, Brierley Hill ... ..	14/1/38	3
11, 13, Bank Street, Brierley Hill ... ..	"	10
73, Delph Lane, Brierley Hill ... ..	"	2
7, 9, 15, Bank Street, Brierley Hill ... ..	"	13
3, Shut End, Pensnett ... ..	"	2
15, Smithy Lane, Pensnett ... ..	"	3
7, 8, 9, 10, Sun Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	28
148, 149, High Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	4
55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, Maughan Street, Quarry Bank	"	17
7, Dunn's Bank, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	3
8, Dunn's Bank, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	6
1, Talbot's Lane, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	1
30, Mount Pleasant, Quarry Bank ... ..	8/2/38	2
37, New Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	18/2/38	3
68, New Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	3
116, 117, New Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	11
24, High Oak, Pensnett ... ..	"	5
141, 141a, Bromley, Pensnett ... ..	"	10
84, 86, Swan Street, Pensnett ... ..	"	9
23, High Oak, Pensnett ... ..	"	3
68, Dudley Street, Brierley Hill ... ..	"	5
1, "A" Court, Parkes Street, Brierley Hill ... ..	8/3/38	5
1, 1b, Brettell Lane, Brierley Hill ... ..	"	4
1a, Brettell Lane, Brierley Hill ... ..	"	3
70, 71, 72, Buckpool, Wordsley ... ..	"	9
22a, Brierley Hill Road, Wordsley ... ..	"	5
42, Brierley Hill Road, Wordsley ... ..	"	4
34, Caledonia, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	5
110, 111, High Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	6
96/97, New Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	5/4/38	6
80, Coppice Lane, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	2
10, Sun Street, Brockmoor ... ..	"	6
81, 83, New Street, Brierley Hill ... ..	"	9
68, 70, 72, New Street, Brierley Hill ... ..	"	6
28, 29, 30, 31, High Street, Wordsley ... ..	3/5/38	13
79, 80, Maughan Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	3/6/38	6
18, 19, Bell Street, Pensnett ... ..	"	8
4, Bradley Street, Pensnett ... ..	5/7/38	5
The Bungalow, Stour Hill, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	2
112, 114, Fenton Street, Brierley Hill ... ..	"	6
4, Amblecote Road, Brierley Hill ... ..	"	2
7, 9, Black Horse Lane, Brierley Hill ... ..	"	13
58, 59, New Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	8
62, Commonsides, Pensnett ... ..	"	6
31, Caledonia, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	4
64, 65, Church Street, Pensnett ... ..	3/6/38	4
66, 67, Church Street, Pensnett ... ..	"	9
44, 45, 46, 47, Sun Street, Brockmoor ... ..	18/7/38	14
84, 85, 86, New Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	2/9/38	22
28, Stour Hill, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	6

**List of Houses on which Demolition Orders were made—continued.**

Houses.	Date of Order.	Occupants.
181, 184, High Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	2/9/38	5
18, Cradley Forge, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	3
51, Thorns Road, Quarry Bank (two houses) ... ..	"	16
72, Coppice Lane, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	2
74, Coppice Lane, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	2
5, 6, Oak Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	7
8, 8a, Maughan Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	5
71, Level Street, Brierley Hill ... ..	"	3
175, 176, Brettell Lane, Wordsley ... ..	"	5
52, Mount Pleasant, Kingswinford... ..	"	5
33, Dudley Street, Brierley Hill ... ..	"	3
69, New Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	11/10/38	3
12, 13, Camphill, Wordsley ... ..	"	9
The Old Bush, Hinksford, Wallheath ... ..	"	4
80, Thorns Road, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	4
81, Thorns Road, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	4
6, Evers Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	3
10, Church Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	4
11, Church Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	4
153, 155, Dudley Street, Brierley Hill ... ..	"	11
88, 90, Bull Street, Brierley Hill ... ..	"	7
44, Brook Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	8/11/38	4
75, Thorns Road, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	2
3, School Street, Pensnett ... ..	"	4
34, Park Road, Quarry Bank ... ..	6/12/38	3
71, Coppice Lane, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	8
73, Coppice Lane, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	8
1, 2, Deeley Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	9
11, 12, Deeley Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	5
56, Birch Coppice, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	6
12, 13, Maughan Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	"	5
4, 5, The Hollies, Pensnett ... ..	"	8
44, 45, Tansey Green, Pensnett ... ..	"	13
16, Shut End, Pensnett ... ..	"	5
17, Shut End, Pensnett ... ..	"	5
Bromley Offices House, Bromley, Pensnett ... ..	"	9
48, Bell Street, Brierley Hill ... ..	"	3
2, John Street, Brockmoor ... ..	"	5
13, High Street, Wordsley ... ..	"	8
38, 39, 40, High Street, Wordsley ... ..	"	11

# **LIST OF HOUSES ON WHICH CLOSING ORDERS WERE MADE.**

Houses.	Date of Order.	Occupants.
121, Commonside, Pensnett ... ..	14/1/38	3
79, 79a, Victoria Road, Quarry Bank ... ..	8/3/38	4
100, 101, New Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	2/9/38	8
58, Fenton Street, Brierley Hill ... ..	11/10/38	3

## **UNDERTAKINGS.**

Property.	Undertaking.
8, Chapel Street, Wordsley ... ..	Not to re-let for human habitation.
16, Broad Street, Pensnett ... ..	" "
Building, Victoria Road, Quarry Bank...	" "
26, 27, 28, 29, Tansey Green, Pensnett ... ..	" "
38, 39, Maughan Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	" "
1, Audnam, Wordsley ... ..	" "
17, New Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	" "
6, 7, 8, Halfway, Kingswinford ... ..	" "
91, Victoria Road, Quarry Bank ... ..	" "
1, Turner's Lane, Brierley Hill ... ..	" "
4, East Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	" "
98, High Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	" "
27, 28, Bower Lane, Quarry Bank ... ..	" "
18, Buckpool, Wordsley ... ..	" "
Standhills House, Ketley, Kingswinford ... ..	" "
Old Offices, Galvanising Works, Mill Street, Brierley Hill ... ..	To reconstruct.
41, 42, Maughan Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	Not to re-let for human habitation.
43, 44, Maughan Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	" "
2, Talbot's Lane, Quarry Bank ... ..	" "
9, 10, Deeley Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	" "
18, Sheffield Street, Quarry Bank ... ..	" "
5, 5a, High Street, Pensnett ... ..	" "
61, Bromley, Pensnett ... ..	" "
29, 29a, Caledonia, Quarry Bank ... ..	" "

**OVERCROWDING.**

Three years have passed since the overcrowding survey was made, and it is opportune to take stock of the position. The total number of cases of overcrowding found was 581, and during the period under review 120 houses became overcrowded primarily due to increase in ages and families, making a total of 701. This total has now been reduced to 81 at the end of 1938.

At the beginning of 1938 there were 176 cases on the books and these have been dealt with as follows :—

Total number of cases of overcrowding at the 1st January, 1938	...	...	...	...	176
Number of additional overcrowded cases occurring during the year	...	...	...	...	44
					<hr/> 220
Houses uncrowded due to action of tenant				41	
Overcrowding cases abated due to slum clearance	...	...	...	48	
Overcrowding cases abated by persons being re-housed by the Council	...	...		50	
				—	139
Total cases on books at 31st December, 1938				..	<hr/> 81

Licences are in operation in respect of 8 houses, all owned by the Council.

There is still a considerable amount of sex overcrowding, and it has been possible during the year to investigate this in the wards of St. Mary's, Kingswinford, and Wordsley. The number of cases of sex overcrowding found were :—

Wordsley : 38 ; St. Mary's : 46.

The majority of these cases was due to the fact that mixed families were residing in two-bedroomed houses.

A number of cases of overcrowding that had been on the books since 1936 and required two-bedroomed houses were abated during the year, due to the action of the Estates Committee in allocating houses.

The following Table gives the position at the end of the year in each Ward :—

	Overcrowded at 1/1/38.	New Cases during 1938.	ABATED.			Still Overcrowded 31/12/38.
			Own Account.	Re-housed Council.	Re-housed for Slum Clearance.	
St. Mary's Ward, Kingswinford	2	2	1	2	—	1
Wordsley	4	4	1	—	1	6
Pensnett	17	6	2	5	14	2
Brockmoor	20	2	1	2	13	6
Brierley Hill (Three Wards)	12	1	2	—	3	8
Quarry Bank	49	8	12	9	17	19
Total	104	23	19	18	48	42
Council Houses	72	21	22	32	—	39
Total ...	176	44	41	50	48	81

## **INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**

Keen attention has been paid to the food supply throughout the district: the whole of the animals slaughtered in the various slaughterhouses have been rigidly inspected, in spite of the varied times of slaughter. Evening duty especially in the summer is frequent and also Sunday duty.

In all 15,846 carcasses were examined at slaughterhouses under my control, and this total represents the whole of the animals known to have been slaughtered within the area.

The following Table shows the various animals slaughtered and the percentage of disease.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed ... ..	746	515	37	6721	7828
Number inspected ... ..	746	515	37	6721	7827
All Diseases except Tuberculosis :					
Whole Carcases condemned ... ..	—	—	—	3	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	36	111	—	321	805
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ... ..	4.8%	21.6%	—	4.8%	10.3%
Tuberculosis only :—					
Whole Carcases condemned ... ..	2	3	—	—	7
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	38	190	—	—	1093
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ... ..	5.4%	37.5%	—	—	14.1%

As will be seen from the foregoing Table, 14.1% of pigs were on examination found to be affected in some degree with Tuberculosis.

41 pigs were slaughtered on private premises against 34 for 1937.

Many inspections have been made at the Public Market, and the various meat shops at which carcasses slaughtered outside the area are brought in for sale.

1,197 quarters of beef  
1,443 carcasses of sheep  
202 carcasses of pigs  
36 carcasses of calves

being inspected on these premises, and the following portions condemned :—

3 pigs' heads—Tuberculosis.  
1 Bovine liver—Tuberculosis.  
2 Bovine livers (portion)—Distomatosis.  
Portion Beef—Tuberculosis.  
Portion Pork—Tuberculosis.

**DISEASES.**

	Bovine lbs.	Sheep lbs.	Pigs lbs.	Total lbs.
Tuberculosis ...	9729	—	19250	28979
Pneumonia ...	13	—	1237	1250
Distomatosis ...	555	177	4	736
Echinococci Cysts ...	555	203	52	810
Cirrhosis ...	105	39	311	455
Pleurisy ...	69	10	144	223
Strongylosis ...	—	443	16	459
Pericraditis ...	—	—	60	60
Hydronephrosis ...	—	1	9	10
Mammitis ...	362	—	—	362
Abscesses ...	231	21	81	333
Congestion ...	133	7	877	1017
Angioma ...	186	—	—	186
Necrosis ...	83	—	10	93
Fevered ...	—	65	—	65
Fatty Growth ...	16	—	—	16
Bruised ...	—	10	16	26
Actino-bacillosis ...	120	—	—	120
Melanosis ...	15	—	—	15
Septicaemia ...	—	40	—	40
Oedema ...	12	—	—	12
Payemia ...	—	—	98	98
Fatty Infiltration ...	12	3	—	15
Urticaria ...	—	—	20	20
Uraemia ...	—	70	—	70
Swine Erysipelas ...	—	—	150	150
Inflammation ...	—	—	20	20
Unsound ...	92	—	—	92
Miscellaneous ...	68	3	25	96
Totals ...	12356	1092	22380	35828

Weight of meat condemned : 15 tons, 19 cwts., 3 qrs., 16 lbs.

**MEAT CONDEMNED.**

			Bovine	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Carcases	...	...	5	3	9	17
Heads	...	...	104	2	981	1087
Lungs	...	...	275	225	1062	1562
Livers	...	...	166	251	310	727
Hearts	...	...	10	38	436	484
Mesenteries	...	...	43	—	388	431
Intestines	...	...	29	—	200	229
Spleens	...	...	6	1	13	20
Collars	...	...	—	—	99	99
Kidneys	...	...	26	13	57	96
Udders	...	...	49	—	—	49
Stomachs	...	...	5	—	64	69
Forequarters	...	...	4	—	1	5
Briskets	...	...	3	—	2	5
Diaphragms	...	...	1	—	2	3
Omenta	...	...	—	—	4	4
Miscellaneous	...	...	7	1	14	22
Totals	...	...				

Food condemned : 1 tin Ox Tongue.  
 35 tins various foodstuffs.  
 560-lbs. potatoes.

**SLAUGHTERHOUSES.**

There are 20 slaughterhouses in the area, 11 being licensed annually, and 9 are old registered slaughterhouses. One slaughterhouse was removed from the register owing to it being disused, and one new licence was issued. The new licence was granted provisionally to get over certain difficulties as to meat inspection, it being granted with the proviso attached that no compensation shall be paid in case the slaughterhouse is closed.

The majority of the slaughterhouses will be affected by the new Food and Drugs Act which comes into operation in October, 1939, particularly the old registered ones, and a higher standard must necessarily follow. My view is that as soon as a carcase is dressed it should be removed to a room outside the slaughterhouse, hanging rooms should be compulsory for all licensed slaughterhouses.

The slaughterhouse generally is the one part of a butcher's premises that has not been modernised.

**Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.**

There are 72 slaughtermen licensed to carry out the work of slaughtering.

It was not necessary to issue any warning to any slaughterman.

**MILK SUPPLY.**

Registration under the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926 :—

*(a)* Retailers—

Loose Milk	...	...	...	79
Bottled Milk	...	...	...	268

*(b)* Producers, Dairymen or Wholesalers 36

The following licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 :—

## Supplementary—

Accredited	...	...	...	3
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	4
Pasteurised	...	...	...	4

## Dealers—

Accredited	...	...	...	1
Pasteurised	...	...	...	1

**Dairies and Cowsheds.**

Number of cowsheds in the area	...	17
Number of visits made for inspection...	...	166
Number of visits made for re-inspection	...	37

Generally, the cowsheds now in use in this area are satisfactory, the majority having been reconstructed during the past three years.

No adverse report has been received from any Authority on the milk produced within the area.

**Offensive Trades.**

There are 36 fish fryers, two tallow melters, and two rag and bone merchants on the register.

The whole of these have been properly conducted. All fish fryers have modern frying ranges and have observed the bye-laws regulating the trade.

**FACTORY ACT, 1937.**

This Act which amends all previous legislation in respect of factories came into operation in July.

The new Act abolished the distinction between workshop and factory, the only distinction now being as to whether mechanical power is used.

The whole of the premises in the area have been visited since the 1st July, and the following are the numbers registered :—

Factories with mechanical power	...	131
Factories without mechanical power	...	122
Bakehouses	... ..	19
Total		<hr/> 272 <hr/>

Three Notices were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories relating to insanitary condition, and these had attention.

Two outworkers' lists were received, notifying 2 outworkers. Eight lists, notifying 18 outworkers, were received from other districts.

No cases of infectious disease occurred at any outworkers' premises.

The following visits were made to the various premises dealt with under the Factory Act :—

Factories with mechanical power	...	160
Factories without mechanical power	...	149
Bakehouses	... ..	48

**FACTORIES.**

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health, including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspec- tions.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prose- cuted.
Factories with mechanical power ...	160	46	—
Factories without mechanical power ...	138	45	—
Other Premises under the Act (in- cluding works of building and en- gineering construction but not including outworkers' premises) ...	11	1	—
Total ...	309	92	—

2.—Defects found.

Particulars.  (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Reme- died (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspect'r (4)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ...	38	15	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	1	1	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3) ...	1	1	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) ...	15	9	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	4	2	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—				
Insufficient ...	25	17	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective ...	39	38	—	—
Not separate for sexes ...	3	5	—	—
Other Offences ...	—	—	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)				
Total ...	126	88	—	—

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

### Collection and Disposal of House and Trade Refuse.

This section of the Report is dealt with up to the 31st March, 1939.

The types of receptacles which this department is responsible for cleansing are :—

Portable ashbins	...	...	...	12540
Ashpits	...	...	...	26
Privy midden pits	...	...	...	159
Pan closets	...	...	...	100
Cesspools	...	...	...	98

The whole of the ashbins and pan closets are given a weekly collection ; ashpits and privies are emptied every three months ; and cesspools four to six months.

The whole of the work is carried out by direct labour, and when one considers the number of visits made by the employees of this department to premises in pursuit of collection work, it speaks well for the men that it is very rare that a complaint is made as to their conduct. I should like here to pay a tribute to the whole of the manual employees of this department for the zeal and attention they pay to their work. From my own knowledge I am sure your Committee are receiving work value for wages paid.

### Collection.

No addition has been made to the vehicles employed on this work, the following still being in use.

3 S.D. freighters (7 cub. yards).

1 Morris (2 ton)

1 S.D. gully/cesspool emptier with 7 cub. yards body for refuse collection.

1 horse vehicle.

Three S.D. vehicles are employed wholly emptying ashbins ; one S.D. vehicle emptying ashbins three days per week and remainder cesspools and street gullies ; Morris two days ashbins ; and the remainder pans, night soil and clean ashes. Horse vehicle night soil and trade refuse.

Each freighter is manned by one driver and 3 men, the Morris by driver and 2 men, and the horse vehicle by driver and 1 man, the strength of each gang being increased by one when a gang is working near to the point of disposal. In all 20 men are employed on collection work.

Again, as in previous years, all house refuse has been weighed for one week each quarter, and it is from these test weighings that the total amount of refuse collected is estimated, the average per vehicle being :—

		T.	C.	Q.
S.D. Freighters	...	2	0	2
Morris	...	1	10	3
Horse vehicle	...		14	3

The total amount of refuse collected during the year is estimated at 15,325 tons, as against 15,195 tons—an increase of 130 tons.

As in previous years a special daily collection is made from various trade premises for which a charge is made, the following being removed in the twelve months under review :—

2,240 bins fish refuse.
1,420 bins slaughter-house refuse.
933 bins other refuse.
588 bags paper.
201 loads market refuse (horse vehicle).
4 loads market refuse (motor vehicle).
51 loads other refuse.

For this service the sum of £85 6s. 2d. was received.

Collections costs increased by £200, the net cost per ton being 5s. 0d., against 4s. 9½d., an increase of 2½d. per ton.

There are still no loan charges in respect of this department, all vehicles, etc., having been purchased out of revenue.

The Rate charge for the whole of this service is 7d., being the same as for 1937—38.

The following Table shows the loads moved by the various vehicles :—

Vehicle	Number of Loads.					Total
	Bins	Dry Fits	Privies Pans and Middens	Cesspools	Trade Refuse	
S.D. 1 ...	1894	—	—	—	—	1894
S.D. 2 ...	1701	—	—	—	—	1701
S.D. 3 ...	1805	—	—	—	—	1805
Morris 4 ...	624	72	132	—	5	833
S.D. 5 ...	1025	—	—	147	—	1172
Horse Vehicle ...	8	—	604	—	251	863
Total 1938	7057	72	736	147	256	8268
Total 1937	6598	167	620	134	215	7734

The following fixed receptacles were emptied during the year :

Dry ashpits	...	128
Privies	...	957
Cesspools	...	111

## Disposal.

The whole of the house refuse collected was disposed of in a proper manner and controlled, but unfortunately it was not possible to concentrate the tipping at one place. During the period under review the following places of disposal were used :—

Tiled House Estate	Completed the filling of a marl hole for recreation purposes.
Commonside ...	Completed filling of land for Housing Committee.
Hawbush ...	Completed filling of land for recreation purposes ; now available for this purpose, 4 acres.
Wallows Strect	Tipping commenced on this site in December ; it is estimated that this site will last approximately twelve months for the whole of the area.

One tip only was in use at a time, the whole of the refuse from ashbins and ashpits being deposited at these tips.

Refuse, chiefly from the Market, has been disposed of by incineration at the destructor of a private company. For this service a charge is made.

Night soil is still disposed of at two tips, both of which are controlled when in use.

During the year under review a special report was presented to your Committee pointing out the serious position the Council would find themselves in if immediate steps were not taken to secure sufficient suitable ground for refuse disposal, and it is pleasing to note that the Council have now obtained an option on ground ideally situated for controlled tipping, and also most suitable for the erection of a proper depot. It is estimated that the ground to be acquired will meet the requirements of the whole of this district for 50 years at least.

The disposal costs increased by £180, and this increase is accounted for by the fact that it became necessary to have three men at the tip instead of two, and also the cost of conveying 1,101 additional loads of clean ashes for covering over the previous twelve months, 1,576 loads in all of clean ashes being conveyed to the tip and used for covering. In addition 658 loads of street sweepings were also used for this purpose.

The total cost of disposal amounted to £561, or 9d. per ton, against 6d. for last year, but even 9d. per ton is a cheap method of disposal against the provision of plant for incineration and separation, especially when there is very suitable ground in the area requiring filling.

**TABLE SHEWING THE COSTS for the Year ending 31st March, 1939.**

Particulars.	Collection.	Disposal.	Collection and Disposal.
<i>Revenue Account.</i>	£	£	£
Gross Expenditure ... ..	3943	561	4504
Gross Income ... ..	105	—	105
Net Cost ... ..	3838	561	4399
<i>Unit Costs</i>	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Gross expenditure, per ton ... ..	5 1½	9	5 10½
Gross Income, per ton ... ..	1½	—	1½
Net Cost per ton ... ..	5 0	9	5 9
Net cost, per 1,000 population ... ..	£ 83	£ 12	£ 95
Net cost, per 1,000 houses or premises from which refuse is collected ... ..	300	44	344

Total Refuse collected (estimated) ... ..	15,325 tons
Population (Midsummer) ... ..	46,360
Area (Statute acres) ... ..	5,932
Weight per 1,000 population per day ... ..	18.1 cwts.
Number of houses and premises ... ..	12,781
Rateable Value ... ..	£168,121
Product of 1d. Rate ... ..	£625
Rate in £ (Collection and Disposal) ... ..	7d.

Method of Collection :—

	Number of Vehicles.	Percentage of Refuse collected.
Horse vehicles	1	4.6%
Mechanical vehicles	5	95.4%

Method of Disposal :—

	Percentage of Refuse dealt with.
Controlled tipping ... ..	96.9%
Incineration ... ..	3.1%

Average length of haul to point of disposal ... 2.5 miles.

The following is the number of loads tipped :—

Tips.				Loads.
Tiled House Estate, Pensnett	...	...	...	1566
Commonside, Pensnett	...	...	...	927
Hawbush, Road, Brierley Hill	...	...	...	2505
Wallows Road, Brockmoor	...	...	...	2131
Brettell Lane, Brierley Hill	...	...	...	472
Sewer	...	...	...	147
Destructor	...	...	...	256
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	264
Total				8268

### Street Cleansing.

Street cleansing is carried out by this department with the exception of a small part of a rural character which is dealt with by the Surveyor in conjunction with his maintenance work.

There are 57.5 miles of roads in the area :—

Classified Roads	...	...	18.87 miles
Other Roads	...	...	38.63 miles

These are cleansed :—

0.5 miles	at least once daily.
3 miles	three times weekly.
16 miles	twice weekly.
38 miles	once weekly.

There are 16 men engaged as street orderlies, each man having a given area to patrol, and an orderly bin truck with two containers. The trucks are emptied as far as possible by house refuse vehicles when working near, and the remainder of the sweepings is placed in dumps which are cleared up weekly. Suitable containers will shortly be provided, and the dumps discontinued. In addition to sweeping, the majority of the orderlies paper pick the streets in their area daily.

The total cost of this work for the year ending 31st March, 1939, was £2,575 gross, a proportion of the cost of cleansing Class I. Roads being re-claimed from the County Council.

There are 1,404 street gullies in the area, all of which are cleansed by mechanical means. These are emptied on the average during the year every twelve weeks, and some in the more thickly populated districts more frequently. 5,353 cleansings being effected during the year, 207 loads of sludge being removed.

352 loads of street sweepings were removed by horse vehicle and 306 loads by motor vehicles.

The cost per 1,000 gullies emptied was £26.

**Sanitary Accommodation.**

The sanitary accommodation at the 31st March, 1939, was as follows :—

**SANITARY ACCOMMODATION, 1938-9.**

District	W.C.'s	Bins	Fans	Ashpits and Privies	Dry Ashpits	Cess-pools
Quarry Park ...	2381	2461	4	89	—	8
Brierley Hill ...	3692	2453	73	38	3	50
Kingswinford ...	6689	6626	23	32	23	40
Totals ...	12762	12540	100	159	26	98

**Public Conveniences.**

The cleansing of all public conveniences is carried out by this department. The sum of £13 17s. 9d. has been collected during the year.

Additional accommodation for both sexes is now in course of erection at two places, and additional sites are being secured in other parts of the area.

All conveniences are cleansed daily, and some twice daily.

**Shops Acts.**

There are 736 shops on the register.

The occupiers of 15 of these were warned re infringements.

Many improvements of the premises have taken place, as will be seen by referring to page 62 of the report.

**CANAL BOATS.**

Number of canal boats inspected during the year ...	1
Number of canal boats on the register ...	3
Registered during the year ...	Nil

One boat worked by man and one boy.

**PETROLEUM ACT.**

There are 104 licensed premises to store petroleum spirit in the area, the total amount licensed being 89,274 gallons. License fees amounting to £61 5s. 0d. were received.

In addition 4 licences to store Calcium Carbide were issued ; Total amount, 6,944 lbs. ; License Fees, £1 15s. 0d.





